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ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT

Report to the Supreme Court of Iowa

by

The State Court Administrator

STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR

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STATE CAPITOL
DES MOINES, IOWA 50319

May 2, 1988

TO THE HONORABLE CHIEF JUSTICE AND JUSTICES
OF THE SUPREME COURT OF IOWA

Pursuant to the provisions of the Iowa Code section 602.1209, I submit herewith the 1987 report relating to the activity of the judicial department.

I wish to express my appreciation to the various clerks of the Iowa District Court, district court administrators and judicial officers for their cooperation in reporting statistics to this office.

Respectfully,

William J. O'Brien
State Court Administrator

WJO/jh

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STATISTICAL HIGHLIGHTS AND TRENDS

Appellate Courts

1. In 1987, there were 1,822 filings (1,337 civil, 485 criminal) and 1,839 dispositions (1,341 civil, 498 criminal); filings and dispositions dropped 3.1 percent and 10.2 percent, respectively, from 1986.

2. Since 1977, the number of filings in the appellate courts soared 48.0 percent (1,281 to 1,822) or an average of almost 5.0 percent per year; the number of filings per appellate judge climbed 37.5 percent (88 to 121). **[Table 12]**

3. There were 910 formal dispositions (670 civil, 240 criminal) in the appellate courts in 1987 -- a 2.5 percent decrease from 1986. By formal opinion, the supreme court disposed of 340 cases (248 civil, 92 criminal); the court of appeals handled 570 cases (422 civil, 148 criminal). The number of civil cases disposed of by formal opinion in the appellate courts decreased 2.9 percent (690 to 670) from 1986 to 1987; the number of criminal cases dropped only 1.2 percent (243 to 240). There were 929 appellate cases (671 civil, 358 criminal) terminated by order or other mode prior to submission to the court as compared to 1,116 dispositions of this kind in 1986. **[Tables 3 and 9]**

4. Excluding attorney disciplinary cases, in 1987, cases involving domestic relations (dissolutions and child custody) comprised 31.6 percent (204 of 645) of the formal appellate decisions in civil cases -- the largest single category of dispositions. The 103 contract cases comprised the second most numerous type of civil case followed by torts (95) and administrative law (90) cases. The number of attorney disciplinary cases disposed of by formal opinion increased 38.9 percent from 18 to 25. **[Tables 3 and 9]**

5. The average appellate case terminated by formal opinion was decided six months after it was ready for submission; the average elapse time from the filing of a notice of appeal to the time a case was ready for submission was about six months. Regular civil cases submitted to the supreme court in January 1988, were made ready in or before May 1987 -- a delay of eight months or two months more than the previous year.

6. During 1987, the number of pending cases in the appellate courts increased 10.6 percent (1,169 to 1,293). The number of cases "ready" for disposition jumped 25.1 percent (395 to 494). [A "ready" case in this context is defined as any pending case in which all necessary papers have been filed; it includes cases which have been submitted to the court but not decided.] **[Tables 4 and 8]**

7. By formal opinion, the appellate courts affirmed the decision of the trial court approximately two-thirds of the time; about one out of five district court filings were reversed and in the remaining cases the appellate courts rendered a mixed decision, partially affirming and reversing the trial court. The supreme court is almost twice as likely to reverse the trial court (25 percent) than the court of appeals (13 percent).

8. In 1987, there were 269 applications to the supreme court for further review of a court of appeals decision. Of the 228 applications considered, the court granted further review in 37 cases and denied further review in 191 other instances. Less than one out of six applications for further review was granted in 1987. In 1987 the supreme court granted further review in 60 of the 281 applications or 21.4 percent of the time. Since 1977, the supreme court has denied further review in 86 percent of the cases (1,800/2,098). **[Table 10]** The supreme court vacated the judgment of the court of appeals in 32 cases; it affirmed 11 decisions in 1987. In 20 of the cases where the opinion of the court of appeals was vacated the supreme court affirmed the opinion of the trial court.

Trial Court

1. In the 31-year period since 1956, the first year trial court statistics were collected and analyzed at the state level, the number of civil filings escalated 131.3 percent (22,922 to 49,697) while the number of criminal filings skyrocketed 634.7 percent (6,178 to 45,115); the number of civil/criminal filings per district judge mushroomed 127.9 percent (416 to 994). **[Appendix F]** Iowa's population grew 5.9 percent (2,722,375 to 2,883,400) during this period.

2. Since 1956, the number of civil/criminal dispositions per district court judge jumped 81.0 percent (394 to 713). **[Appendix H]**

3. Since 1956, the number of juvenile petitions soared 277.3 percent (1,607 to 6,064). The number of probate cases opened rose 51.3 percent (16,137 to 24,410) since 1956. **[Appendix F]**

4. Since 1974, the first calendar year after unification of the Iowa District Court, civil filings, criminal filings, juvenile petitions and probate matters have increased 37.2, 119.4, 11.3, and 7.8 percent, respectively. Similarly, the number of simple misdemeanors/scheduled violations filings increased 43.2 percent (484,651 to 694,036) while the number of small claims petitions decreased 6.8 percent (68,021 to 63,394). The 1987 figures show a 2.8 percent decrease in the number of simple misdemeanor filings, a 5.5 percent rise in the number of scheduled violations and a 5.9 percent decrease in the number of small claims filed in the district court from 1986. **[Appendices F and G]**

5. In 1987, only 533 of the 2229,652 simple misdemeanors (0.2 percent) and 785 of the 27,084 small claims (2.9 percent) terminated by judicial officers were appealed to the district court. **[Tables 5 and 6]**

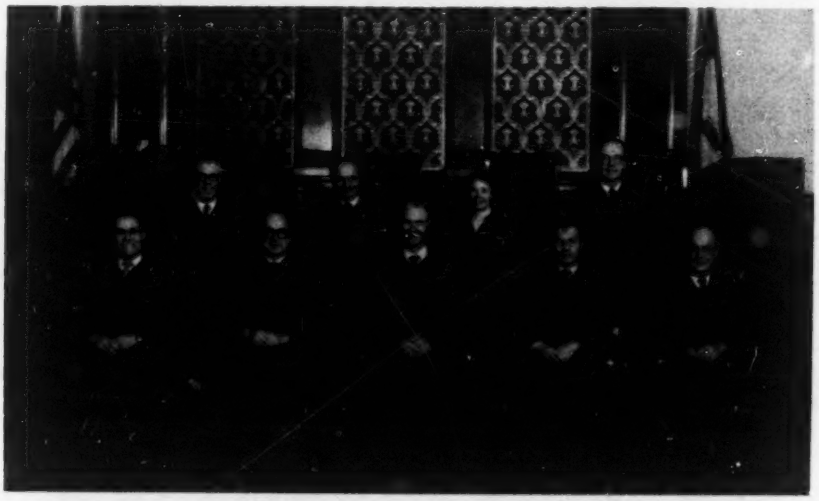
6. In 1987, dissolutions and modifications (16,880), uniform support (6,364), and domestic abuse (220) filings accounted for 23,464 cases or 47.2 percent of all civil filings (49,697). Indictable misdemeanor cases involving first and second offense drunk driving (OWI) comprise 15,827 of the 45,115 criminal filings or 35.1 percent of the total. There were 8,230 felony filings in 1987 -- up 538 cases or 7.0 percent from the 7,692 felony filings in 1986. **[Tables 5 and 6]**

I. APPELLATE COURTS

THE SUPREME COURT OF IOWA

The Supreme Court of Iowa is composed of nine justices. The chief justice is selected by a vote of the court and serves for the duration of his or her eight-year term of office. As of January 1, 1988, one hundred persons have served on the supreme court since Iowa became a territory in 1838. Although the high court was composed of only three justices during the first 26 years, the general assembly increased the court's membership to four in 1864, to five in 1876, to six in 1894, to seven in 1913, to eight in 1927, and nine in 1929, as a result of rising caseload.

At the end of 1987, the justices of the supreme court listed in order of seniority were: David Harris (Jefferson), Arthur A. McGiverin, Chief Justice, (Ottumwa), Jerry L. Larson (Harlan), Louis W. Schultz (Iowa City), James H. Carter (Cedar Rapids), Louis A. Lavorato (Des Moines), Linda K. Neuman (Davenport), Bruce M. Snell, Jr. (Ida Grove), and James H. Andreasen (Algona). Justice Charles R. Wolle resigned effective August 12, 1987; Chief Justice W. Ward Reynoldson retired effective October 1, 1987. On October 8, 1987, Iowa Court of Appeals Judge Bruce M. Snell, Jr. was appointed to the supreme court to succeed Chief Justice Reynoldson. On November 13, 1987, Third District Judge James H. Andreasen was selected to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Justice Wolle.



Pictured above, the justices of the Supreme Court of Iowa are: Justices Louis W. Schultz, David Harris, Arthur A. McGiverin (Chief), Jerry L. Larson, and James H. Carter (seated); and Bruce M. Snell, Jr., Louis A. Lavorato, Linda K. Neuman, and James H. Andreasen (standing).

Selection and Removal

The method of selecting justices to the Supreme Court of Iowa has changed several times since 1838. While the three territorial justices were appointed by the President of the United States, when Iowa became a state on December 28, 1846, the constitution provided for the selection of supreme court justices by a joint vote of both houses of the general assembly. Iowa's second constitution, adopted in 1857, reflected the mood of Jacksonian democracy and called for the popular election of judges. Finally, in 1962, Iowa voters ratified a constitutional amendment which removed judges from partisan elections and established a 15-member State Judicial Nominating Commission composed of seven laypersons appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate and seven attorneys elected by members of the Iowa bar. The supreme court justice with the longest service, other than the chief justice, chairs the commission. Whenever a vacancy occurs on the Supreme Court of Iowa, the commission nominates three individuals from whom the governor selects one. One year following initial appointment, and every eight years thereafter, supreme court justices stand for retention at the general election. Trial and appellate judges appointed after July 1, 1965, must retire by age 72; those appointed earlier may serve until their 75th birthday.

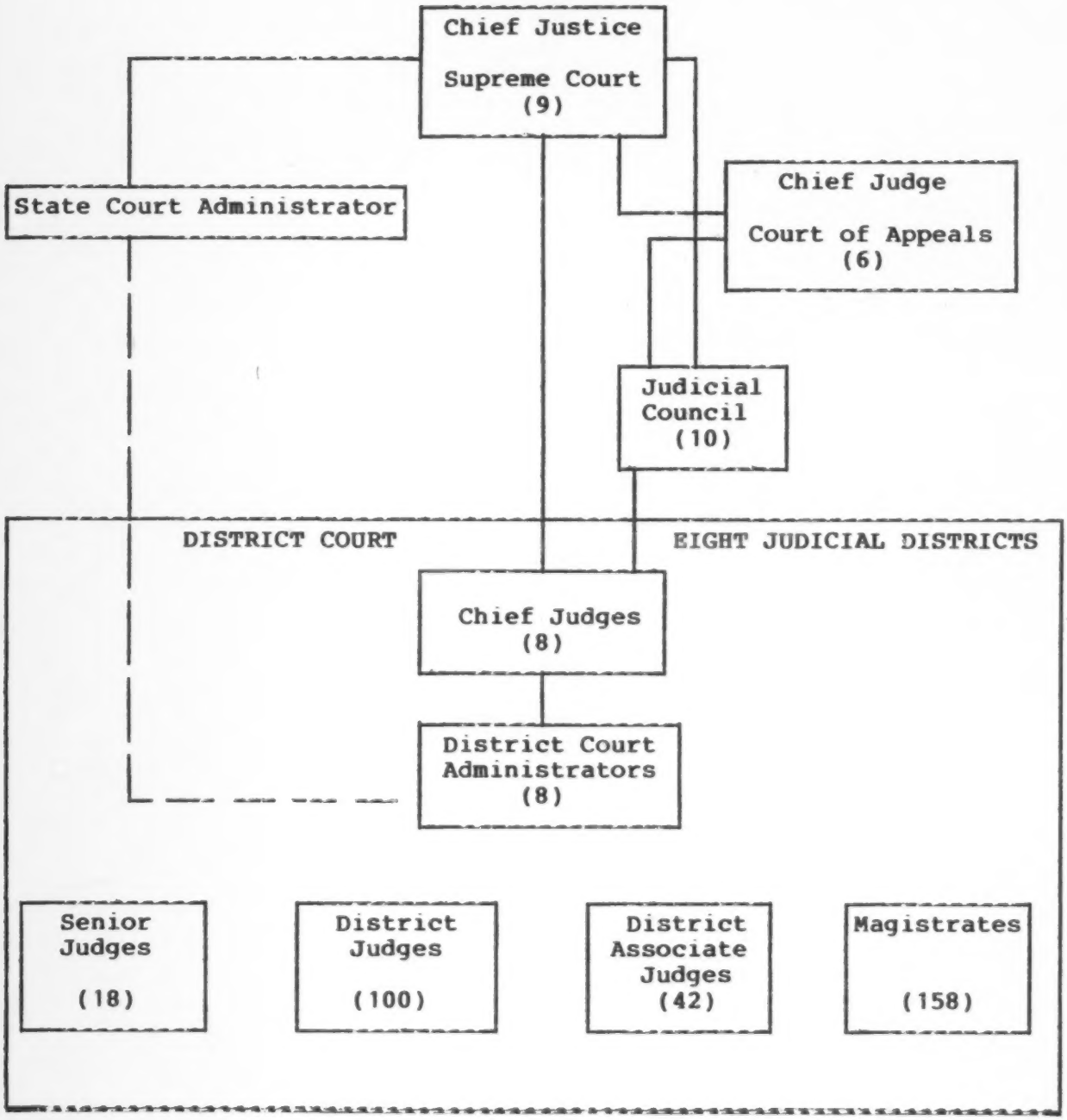
Procedures were established in 1975 for the discipline and removal of judges standing for retention election. The Commission on Judicial Qualifications may apply to the supreme court to retire, discipline or remove any justice, judge or magistrate. The commission is composed of a district court judge and two practicing attorneys appointed by the chief justice of the supreme court and four non-attorney electors appointed by the governor and confirmed by the senate.

Jurisdiction

The supreme court stands at the apex of the Iowa judicial system. The court has general appellate jurisdiction in both civil and criminal cases. The court also has original jurisdiction in such cases as reapportionment, bar discipline and the issuance of temporary injunctions. The supreme court has jurisdiction over all appeals from final judgments and from interlocutory orders. It also has the authority to grant writs of certiorari in cases where a district court is alleged to have exceeded its jurisdiction or otherwise acted illegally. A majority of cases handled by the supreme court are appeals from adverse final judgments in the trial court, the Iowa District Court. Except where the action involves an interest in real

CHART 1

IOWA JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT
(January 1, 1988)



estate, no appeal shall be taken in any case where the amount in controversy, as shown by the pleadings, is less than $3,000 unless the trial judge certifies that the cause is one in which appeal should be allowed. In small claims actions, where the amount in controversy is $2,000 or less, the supreme court may exercise discretionary review. In criminal cases where the state is the appellant or applicant, the supreme court may exercise discretionary review in the following cases: (1) an order dismissing an arrest or search warrant; (2) an order suppressing or admitting evidence; (3) an order granting or denying a change of venue; and (4) a final judgment or order raising a question of law important to the judiciary and the profession. In cases where the defendant is the appellant or applicant, the supreme court may exercise discretionary reviewin the following cases: (1) an order suppressing or admitting evidence; (2) an order granting or denying a change of venue; (3) an order denying probation; (4) a simple misdemeanor or ordinance violation conviction; and (5) an order raising a question of law important to the judiciary and the profession. All other final judgments may be appealed to the supreme court as a matter of right. [See diagram of the Iowa judicial system on the preceding page.]

The 1976 Session of the 66th General Assembly established a five-member court of appeals. [The Iowa Court of Appeals was increased to six members in 1983.] All cases continue to be appealed directly to the supreme court which transfers cases to the intermediate court. Supreme court justices in rotating three-member panels determine which cases to retain and which matters to route to the court of appeals. Pursuant to Rule 401, Rules of Appellate Procedure, the supreme court ordinarily shall hear (not transfer) cases involving: (1) substantial constitutional questions as to the validity of a statute, ordinance, court, or administrative rule; (2) substantial issues in which there is or is claimed to be a conflict with a published decision of the court of appeals or supreme court; (3) substantial issues of first impression; (4) fundamental and urgent issues of broad public importance requiring prompt or ultimate determination; and (5) lawyer discipline. The rule also authorizes summary disposition of certain cases by the supreme court and transfer to the court of appeals of cases involving the application of existing legal principles.

In addition to deciding cases, the supreme court is authorized to supervise the administration of justice and promulgate rules of procedure for the district court, determine the rules for admission and discipline of the bar, regulate a client security fund and program of mandatory continuing education for lawyers and judges, and adopt rules regulating

appellate practice and procedure. In exercising its administrative and supervisory control over the trial court, the Supreme Court of Iowa appoints a chief judge in each of the eight judicial districts. The chief judges are responsible for overseeing all judges and magistrates within their jurisdictions. Together with the chief justice of the supreme court and the chief judge of the court of appeals, chief judges of the district court comprise the Iowa Judicial Council. The council is authorized to consider all court administrative rules, directives, and regulations necessary to provide for an efficient, orderly, and effective administration of justice in Iowa.

Administrative Office

Assisting the supreme court in its administrative, supervisory, and decision-making roles are the state court administrator, clerk of the supreme court, legal assistants, and various boards and commissions. The court administrator, clerk of supreme court and legal assistants serve at the pleasure of the court. The court administrator and staff have many statutory and administrative responsibilities including: managing the judicial department, screening cases for oral argument and case routing, writing case statements, gathering statistical data on judicial business at all levels, apportioning judicial magistrates among the counties, computing the district court judgeship formula, conducting educational programs for judicial officers and support staff, recommending improvements in the organization and operation of the judicial system, administering the judicial retirement system, handling fiscal and personnel matters, planning and budgeting for the judicial department, providing administrative assistance to various court-appointed committees, and attending to such matters as the supreme court may direct. The court administrator serves as the executive secretary for the Judicial Qualifications Commission and secretary to the State Judicial Nominating Commission; the court administrator is also a member of the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning Agency and the State Library Commission.

The clerk of the supreme court also serves as the clerk of the court of appeals. The clerk dockets and monitors all cases appealed to the court, collects court fees, files legal briefs, and appendices, and records and files every opinion and order of the appellate courts. The clerk is responsible for the sale of court opinions, the administration of the biannual Iowa bar examination and the election of attorney-members to the state

and judicial election district nominating commissions. The clerk of the supreme court also collects and accounts for all fees associated with the state bar examination and the shorthand reporter examination and certification.

Boards and Commissions

In its role as supervisor of the Iowa bar, the supreme court appoints the members of the Board of Law Examiners and confirms as commissioners of the court the members of the Grievance Commission and the Committee on Professional Ethics and Conduct. In 1973, with the assistance of The Iowa State Bar Association, the court established the Client Security and Attorney Disciplinary System designed to prevent defalcations by members of the Iowa bar and provide for the payment of losses caused to the public by dishonest conduct of Iowa attorneys. The court appointed a seven-member commission to administer the fund resulting from an annual assessment imposed on attorneys. In 1973, the supreme court ordered that all Iowa lawyers and judges complete a minimum of 15 hours of continuing legal education each year. A 12-member Commission on Continuing Legal Education was appointed to exercise general supervisory authority over the administration of this rule.

On December 28, 1984, the Supreme Court of Iowa, upon petition of The Iowa State Bar Association, established an Interest on Lawyers' Trust Account program (IOLTA), effective July 1, 1985. Attorneys in Iowa are required to deposit clients' funds in interest-bearing trust accounts. However, under this program, sums that are too small or held for too short a time to cover the cost of maintaining the accounts, the attorneys are required to deposit such funds into a pooled interest-bearing trust account. Any interest resulting from the pooled account is transmitted to the Lawyer Trust Account Commission, a seven-member body of both lawyers and laypersons appointed by the supreme court to administer the IOLTA program. Funds received in the IOLTA program are used primarily to assist in providing legal services to the poor in civil cases. Other public purposes related to improving the administration of justice also are eligible. The supreme court determines the actual allocation of IOLTA funds. As of November 30, 1987, IOLTA grants totaling $1,162,023.50 have been awarded.

The supreme court is responsible for promulgating rules of evidence, appellate, civil, criminal, juvenile and probate procedure. The court also is authorized to prescribe rules of evidence, pleading, practice, and procedure, and the forms of process, writs, and notices for all proceedings concerning hospitalization of mentally ill persons and chemical substance

abuse. In exercising its rulemaking authority, the supreme court is assisted by several committees including: (1) the Supreme court Committee on Rules of Civil Procedure; (2) the Advisory Committee on Rules of Criminal Procedure; (3) the Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Iowa Rules of Evidence; (4) the Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Rules of Juvenile Procedure; and (5) the Probate Rules Committee.

Court Reorganization

In recent years the administrative responsibilities of the state court administrator and supreme court have increased dramatically as the size of the judicial department has grown to over 2,000 employees. The 1983 Court Reorganization Act provided state funding for court support staff and a five-year implementation phase-in by functional area as follows: October 1, 1983 - jury fees and mileage; July 1, 1984 - court reporters, and witness fees and mileage; January 1, 1985 - court attendants; July 1, 1985 - juvenile referees, juvenile court officers, and staff; July 1, 1986 - district court clerks and staff, probate referees, judicial hospitalization referees, and incidental judicial expenses; and July 1, 1987 - indigent defense costs. Court reorganization was completed in 1987.

The supreme court has appointed advisory committees from different components joining the judicial department to assist the court in implementing a smooth transition. A personnel system and pay plan for all judicial employees has been established. The state court administrator is the public employer of court employees for purposes of public employment relations.

The supreme court also is assisted by eight chief judges and district court administrators who supervise judicial officers and employees in their respective districts. Although funding is now centralized, most of the day-to-day administration is done at the district level where budgets are developed and expenditures are monitored. The supreme court and staff review all budget requests, prepare a departmental budget, and present the budget request to the legislative branch. A budget summary is attached to the chief justice's annual "State of the Judiciary" message to the legislature.

Budget

The 1987 Session of the 71st General Assembly appropriated $55,800,000 to finance the operation and administration of the Judicial Department for fiscal year ending June 30, 1988. This figure includes appropriations for the supreme court, court of appeals, state court administrator's office, district court administration, court-related boards and commissions, jury and witness fees, the salaries and travel expenses of all judicial officers, referees, and support staff, and the offices of district court clerks and juvenile court services.

As noted in Chart 2 below, the general fund appropriation for the judiciary represented 2.3 percent of the total state general fund appropriation of $2,412,692,981.

CHART 2

STATE OF IOWA

Appropriated funds for Fiscal Year 1988
in millions of dollars: $2,412.69

The cost of administering the Judicial Department is 2.3 percent of the total State General Fund Appropriation for FY 1988.

Source: Legislative Fiscal Bureau,
Fiscal Report 1987 Session, June, 1987.

*Judicial Department includes: court operations and reorganization.

**Other Justice System includes: the Attorney General's Office, the Departments of Corrections and Public Safety, the Law Enforcement Academy, the Parole Board and appropriations for indigent defense, juvenile victim restitution, and juvenile representation.

Work Load

During 1987, the Supreme Court of Iowa disposed of 340 cases by written opinion -- 223 civil, 92 criminal and 25 disciplinary. **[Table 1]** As illustrated in the chart below, the number of formal opinions remained stable (344 to 340) from 1986 to 1987. The fluctuation in the number of per curiam opinions during the last few years is primarily the result of the use of the fast-track decision process whereby less complex cases are submitted without oral argument to rotating three-justice panels. Of the 96 per curiam opinions filed in 1987, 58 were handled by fast-track procedure.

Year	Signed Court Opinions	Unsigned Per Curiam Opinions	Total
1987	244	96	340
1986	272	72	344
1985	273	31	304
1984	270	53	323
1983	281	174	455
1982	289	178	467
1981	278	105	383
1980	250	25	275

As illustrated in **Table 2**, 85.6 percent of the cases (291 of 340) decided by formal opinion were appealed to the supreme court as a matter of right. There were 238 appeals from final judgments in the district court, 9 appeals from interlocutory rules, 9 postconviction appeals, 25 attorney disciplinary actions, 3 cases involving certified questions of law from the U.S. District Court and 7 cases by miscellaneous modes of review. The Supreme Court of Iowa exercised discretionary review in only 49 cases -- 43 cases appealed from the court of appeals and 6 original certiorari cases.

Table 3 shows the most numerous types of civil cases disposed of by written opinion concerned administrative law (46), contracts (43), domestic relations (25), property (18) and postconviction relief (11). Of the 92 criminal cases, 22 involved guilty pleas and/or sentencing issues, exclusively.

In addition to writing 340 opinions during 1987, the nine supreme court justices registered 17 dissents and 5 special concurrences. Their opinions totaled 3,209 pages or 357 pages per judge on double-spaced, letter-size paper. The average supreme court opinion was 9.4 pages in length. Ninety-five percent of the rulings (323 of 340) were approved by a unanimous vote of the justices.

Cases filed before the supreme court declined 3.1 percent from 1,880 (1986) to 1,822 (1987). As noted in **Table 11**, the number of filings in the supreme court mushroomed 48.0 percent (1,231 to 1,822) during the last decade. Since 1977, civil filings have soared 70.3 percent (785 to 1,337) while criminal cases have climbed 8.7 percent (446 to 485).

Table 4 indicates the number of civil and criminal cases "In Work," "Ready," "Assigned" and "Out-to-Judges" which were pending as of December 31, 1985, 1986, and 1987. From December 31, 1986, to the end of 1987, the number of cases "In Work" increased 3.2 percent (774 to 799); the number of cases "Ready" for disposition rose 25.2 percent (166 to 208). The total number of pending cases increased by 82 cases (999 to 1,081) or 8.2 percent.

When the pending cases in both appellate courts are examined, figures show an overall jump of 10.6 percent (1,169 to 1,293) in the number of pending cases from December 31, 1986, to the end of 1987. Including cases assigned and submitted but not decided, the number of cases ready for disposition (i.e., all necessary papers filed) escalated 25.1 percent (395 to 494) during 1987.

As noted in **Table 5**, the average elapse time from "Ready" for submission to supreme court decision was 5.8 months in 1987 -- up more than a month from 1986. The processing time for civil, priority civil, and criminal cases in 1987 was 6.8, 3.7, and 3.5 months, respectively.

An examination of the direction of the supreme court decisions during 1987, indicates that 60 percent of the district court rulings were affirmed by the court, 25 percent were reversed, and 15 percent were mixed. (A "mixed" supreme court decision is defined as a ruling which both "affirms" and "modifies" or "reverses" parts of a district court ruling.) Fifty-four cases involving such matters as attorney disciplinary actions, appeals from the court of appeals, certification of questions of law, and original jurisdiction matters were not classified or included in the disposition direction computation.

	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
Affirmed	53	67	64	62	60	61	60	60
Reversed	33	23	23	25	27	29	29	25
Mixed	14	10	13	13	13	10	11	15

Over half of the cases (171/340) disposed of by written opinion were appealed from the trial courts of seven urban counties. Nearly one out of six cases arose in Polk County.

Counties	Number of Cases	Percentage of Total Cases Disposed
Polk	57	16.8
Scott	28	8.2
Linn	27	7.9
Johnson	22	6.5
Black Hawk	18	5.3
Woodbury	11	3.2
Pottawattamie	8	2.4
TOTAL	171	50.3

In addition to the 340 supreme court cases disposed of by formal opinion after submission to the court, 1,539 cases (1,147 civil and 392 criminal) were disposed of by court order, consolidation, dismissal by the clerk for failure to cure a default or by voluntary action by the parties involved. **Table 6** shows 101 cases were dismissed by order of the supreme court; 259 orders were issued denying petitions for various types of review; 46 cases were dismissed by the clerk for failure to cure a default after notice; 373 cases were voluntarily withdrawn by the parties; 18 cases were consolidated; 618 cases were transferred by order of the supreme court to the court of appeals, and 124 were disposed of by other means. In total, 2,005 filings were disposed of by the supreme court in 1987. Excluding cases transferred to the court of appeals, the supreme court disposed of 1,261 appeals in 1987.

A significant amount of judge-time also was spent ruling on preliminary motions and applications, conducting hearings, and writing 4,837 orders which did not result in the disposal of a case. Excluding orders transferring cases to the court of appeals, the number of dispository and non-dispository orders issued by the supreme court during the last eight years is illustrated on the next page.

Year	Dispository Orders	Nondispository Orders
1987	921	4,837
1986	1,109	4,955
1985	1,068	5,128
1984	1,002	4,974
1983	893	5,071
1982	923	4,939
1981	822	5,006
1980	838	4,220

In recent years, several major structural and procedural changes have contributed to the supreme court's ability to handle an increasing number of appeals. One importantinnovation has been the reinstitution of a practice prevalentfrom 1929-43; namely, hearing and deciding cases in divisions of five members. Instead of spending four days a month in court hearing oral arguments, each justice now spends two dayshearing oral arguments. (During the monthly court week, Wednesday and sometimes part of Thursday morning, generally are reserved for conference and administrative matters.) Except in the most complex and controversial cases in which two or more justices request disposition en banc (by the full nine-member court), cases before the supreme court are decided by division. The drafts of all proposed opinions are circulated to the entire court. At any time prior to final approval of a proposed opinion, any two justices may request that a specific case be decided en banc. The appellate screening staff initially examines all cases and recommends to a three-justice screening panel whether a case should be submitted en banc or to a division; staff attorneys also recommend the amount of oral argument time, if any, which should be allotted to each case, and whether the case should be retained by the supreme court or transferred to the court of appeals.

As noted in **Table 7**, 300 of the 340 supreme court decisions were decided by a division or panel of the nine-member court. There were 242 cases decided by a rotating panel of five justices; 58 cases were disposed of by three-justice fast-track panels. Only 11.8 percent of the cases disposed of in 1987 were decided by all nine justices sitting en banc.

In addition to using judicial panels to hear and decide cases, the court also has conserved time by reducing the number of cases permitted oral argument and limiting the amount of time each party can use in presenting its case. While before 1973 the court allowed 75 minutes to argue a case, today most oral arguments are limited to approximately 35 minutes. In 1987, nearly one-third of the cases disposed of by formal opinion were submitted to the supreme court without oral argument.

The number and percentage of appeals submitted to the supreme court without oral argument since 1980, are illustrated below.

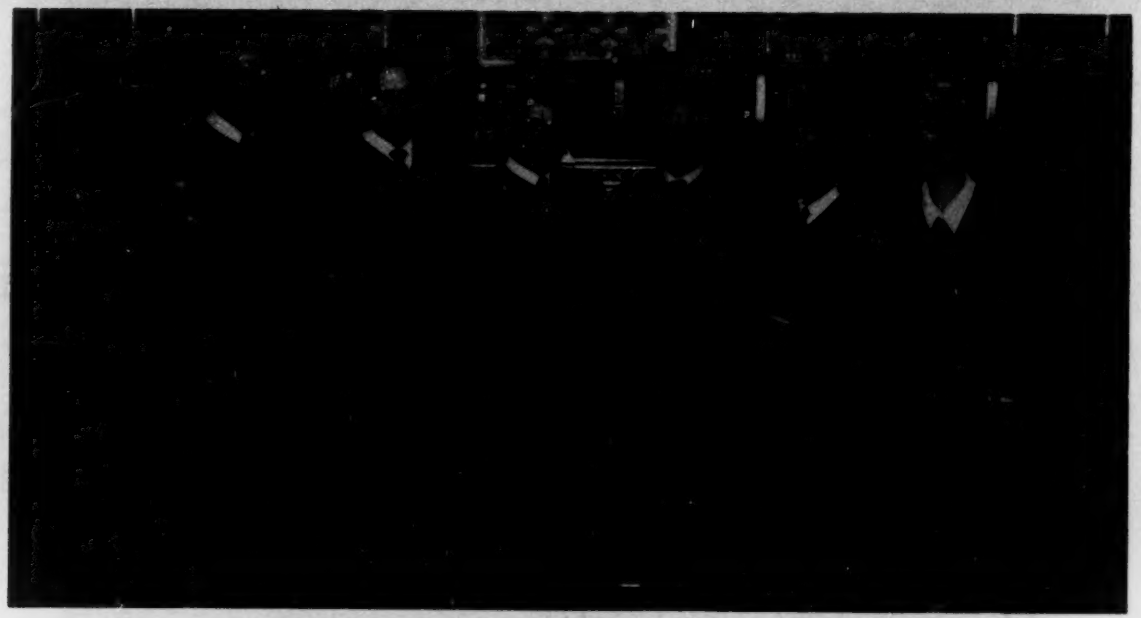
SUBMISSIONS TO THE SUPREME COURT				
Year	Oral	Non-Oral	Total	Percent Non-Oral
1987	226	144	370	38.9%
1986	229	105	334	31.4%
1985	250	53	303	17.5%
1984	234	76	310	24.5%
1983	257	193	450	43.5%
1982	264	217	481	45.1%
1981	254	136	390	34.9%
1980	236	46	282	16.3%

Other factors playing crucial roles in alleviating some of the court's research and administrative burdens include: the research of legal assistants, the case statements, court orders, and screening recommendations drafted by the screening staff, and the administrative tasks performed by the state court administrator and staff, and the clerk's office.

THE IOWA COURT OF APPEALS

In 1976, the 66th General Assembly established a new five-member appellate court designated as the Iowa Court of Appeals; in 1983 a sixth member was added. The new court began hearing oral arguments and deciding cases in January 1977. The members of the Iowa Court of Appeals listed in order of seniority are: Allen L. Donielson (Des Moines), Leo Oxberger, Chief Judge (Des Moines), Dick R. Schlegel (Ottumwa), Maynard J. V. Hayden (Indianola), Rosemary Shaw Sackett (Spencer), and Albert L. Habhab (Fort Dodge). Judge Habhab was appointed to the Iowa Court of Appeals on December 18, 1987, to fill the vacancy resulting from the appointment of Judge Bruce M. Snell, Jr., to the Supreme Court of Iowa.

The court of appeals is authorized to review all civil and criminal actions, postconviction remedy proceedings, small claims actions, writs, orders, and other processes transferred to it by the supreme court. The Iowa Court of Appeals hears only the cases transferred to it by the supreme court. All cases continue to be appealed directly to the supreme court.



The judges of the Iowa Court of Appeals are, from left: Maynard J. V. Hayden, Dick R. Schlegel, Allen L. Donielson, Chief Judge Leo Oxberger, Bruce M. Snell, Jr., and Rosemary Shaw Sackett

Not pictured is Judge Albert L. Habhab of Fort Dodge who took office January 8, 1988, replacing Judge Snell who was appointed to the Iowa Supreme Court, October 8, 1987.

Work Load

As indicated in **Table 8**, during 1987, the six-member court of appeals disposed of 578 cases - 428 civil and 150 criminal -- the second largest number of dispositions in its nine-year history. There were 152 per curiam opinions, 418 signed opinions, and eight cases dismissed by order. Since the court of appeals was established in late 1976 and began deciding cases in 1977, it has disposed of 5,325 cases (3,873 civil and 1,452 criminal). There were 155 civil and 57 criminal cases pending before the court of appeals at the end of 1987.

The number and type of cases disposed of by formal written opinion are illustrated in **Table 9**. As noted in this table, the court of appeals disposed of 179 domestic relations cases (83 involving child custody), 60 contract cases, 50 tort cases, 44 administrative law matters, 27 postconviction relief cases, and 25 property matters. Fifteen of the 148 criminal cases disposed of involved exclusively sentencing or guilty plea issues.

Of the 561 cases classified by disposition, 421 or 75.0 percent were affirmed, 75 or 13.4 percent were reversed, and 65 or 11.6 percent were a combination of the two, modified or remanded only.

During 1987, the supreme court considered 228 applications for further review and granted review in 37 cases or 16.2 percent of the time. Of the 43 court of appeals rulings reviewed by the supreme court in 1987, 32 were vacated and 11 were affirmed.

The average delay from the time a case was "ready" for submission to "decision" by the court of appeals was 5.8 months -- almost seven months less than appellate delay in 1977, the court's first year of operation. **[Table 11]** In 1987, the average elapse time for non-priority civil cases was 6.4 months; the delay was 16.1 months in 1977. The average delay in case processing has remained relatively constant since 1978.

Of the 603 cases submitted to the court of appeals in 1987, 361 or 59.9 percent were heard on the record without oral argument. Sixty-four of these cases were handled as fast-tracks. In 1986, the proportion of cases decided without oral argument was 56.7 percent.

Including the 57 opinions with one or more dissents, the 570 formal opinions totaled 3,493 pages, an average of 6.1 pages per case or 582 pages per judge, counting the title page. The number of opinion-pages was down 481 pages from 1986. Opinions ranged in length from 2 to 29 pages on double-spaced, letter-size paper.

Of the 570 dispositions by formal opinion, 316 or 55.4 percent were appealed from ten counties: Polk (85), Scott (60), Linn (43), Black Hawk (29), Dubuque (20), Johnson (18), Pottawattamie and Woodbury (16), Muscatine (15) and Tama (14). During 1987, the court of appeals decided cases from 90 of the 99 counties in Iowa.

Iowa Appellate Courts -- Statistical Summary

There were 1,822 cases -- 1,337 civil and 485 criminal -- filed in the supreme court in 1987, down from 1,880 in 1986. The number of appellate case filings from 1977 to 1987 is graphically illustrated in **Table 12.** Since 1977, civil filings have soared 70.3 percent (785 to 1,337) while the number of criminal cases docketed has increased 8.7 percent (446 to 485). In 1987, there were over 121 filings per appellate judge.

During 1987, the supreme court and the court of appeals disposed of 1,839 cases -- 1,341 civil (including 25 attorney disciplinary cases) and 498 criminal -- a 10.2 percent drop from the 2,049 cases dipsosed of in 1986. Half of the civil (671/1,341) and criminal dispositions (258/498) were by order

rather than formal opinion. There were 1,293 cases pending (951 civil and 342 criminal) at the end of the year -- an increase of 124 or 10.6 percent from the first of the year. The number of pending cases ready for disposition rose 25.1 percent (395 to 494) during 1987.

There were 910 dispositions by formal opinion -- 670 civil and 240 criminal. During 1987, the average case was decided one year after it was docketed in the supreme court clerk's office. In the average case the parties required 6.2 months to file the briefs, records, etc., and make the case ready for submission to the court; the elapse time from readiness to decision was 5.8 months. In 1986, the average time elapsed from notice of appeal to decision was 10.6 months.

The largest category of civil cases handled at the appellate level by formal opinion was domestic relations -- 204 of 645 civil cases (excluding disciplinary cases) or 31.6 percent. The number and types of other civil cases decided by formal opinion in the appellate courts were as follows: contracts, 103; torts, 95; and administrative law, 90.

The supreme court disbarred or revoked the licenses of four attorneys, suspended the licenses of 34 lawyers, and reprimanded 23 attorneys. In nine instances, attorney licenses were reinstated and 25 disciplinary cases were decided by a formal opinion of the supreme court. In 1986, the number of attorneys disbarred, suspended, and reprimanded were 12, 34, and 45, respectively.

TABLE 1

NUMBER OF CIVIL, CRIMINAL AND DISCIPLINARY CASES[a]
TERMINATED BY FORMAL OPINION
SUPREME COURT OF IOWA, 1977-1987

YEAR	CIVIL[b]	CRIMINAL[c]	DISCIPLINARY[d]	TOTAL
1987	224	91	25	340
1986	237	89	18	344
1985	245	46	13	304
1984	209	100	14	323
1983	301	149	5	455
1982	295	161	11	467
1981	208	171	4	383
1980	187	84	4	275
1979	202	81	7	290
1978	245	103	9	357
1977	252	118	4	374
TOTAL	2,605	1,193	114	3,912

a. Where two or more related cases were consolidated for purposes of decision-making and resolved by one court opinion, only one of the combined cases was counted in computing the total number of dispositions by opinion. In 1987, the 340 supreme court decisions involved 358 case filings.
b. The "civil" case category in this report includes appeals from final denials of postconviction relief and all certiorari cases.
c. "Criminal" means direct appeals from final judgment in criminal cases.
d. Includes only the bar disciplinary proceedings disposed of by written opinion and published in the North Western Reporter.

TABLE 2

FORMAL DISPOSITIONS BY THE SUPREME COURT OF IOWA
AS CLASSIFIED BY MODE OF REVIEW -- 1982-1987

MODE OF REVIEW	NUMBER OF FORMAL DISPOSITIONS					
	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
Appeal from Final Order (judgment) in District Court						
Civil Case	233	217	134	164	166	161
Criminal Case	149	131	86	33	79	77
Original Certiorari						
Civil Case	5	7	6	10	6	3
Criminal Case	4	2	3	3	2	3
Appeal from Interlocutory Ruling	15	29	26	29	22	9
Discretionary Review of Small Claim	3	4	--	1	--	--
Certified Question of Law	6	4	4	1	2	3
Appeal in Postconviction Relief Proceeding	17	17	16	15	9	9
Lawyer Disciplinary	11	5	14	13[a]	18	25
Further Review	15	23	23	38	45	43
Miscellaneous	9	16	11	6	6	7
TOTAL DISPOSITIONS	467	455	313	303	344	340

a. Includes one judge disciplinary case.

TABLE 3

NUMBER AND TYPE OF CASES DISPOSED OF
BY SUPREME COURT OPINION, 1982-1987

CASE TYPE	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
CIVIL						
Administrative law	41	56	31	56	56	46
Contracts	37	46	30	35	30	43
Contested child custody	13	16	7	7	10	7
Domestic relations not involving child custody	56	43	19	10	23	18
Postconviction relief	17	17	18	16	12	11
Property	26	11	17	18	12	19
Taxation	5	7	2	8	3	4
Tort	46	55	39	50	62	45
Trusts, estates, wills	9	10	10	6	2	12
Other	45	40	36	39	27	18
TOTAL CIVIL	295	301	209	245	237	223
CRIMINAL						
Guilty plea only	15	8	2	--	6	2
Sentencing only	23	30	10	10	12	18
Guilty plea and sentencing only	4	2	4	1	4	2
Other	119	109	84	35	67	70
TOTAL CRIMINAL	161	149	100	46	89	92
LAWYER DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS	11	5	14	13[a]	18	25
TOTAL	467	455	323	304	344	340

a. Includes one judge disciplinary case.

TABLE 4

NUMBER OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES: IN WORK[a], READY[b], ASSIGNED[c], AND OUT-TO-SUPREME COURT JUSTICES[d]
A COMPARISON OF CASELOADS
DECEMBER 31, 1985, 1986, AND 1987

	1985			1986			1987		
	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL
IN WORK	535	271	806	553	221	774	559	240	799
READY	80	17	97[e]	145	21	166[e]	174	34	208[e]
ASSIGNED	19	7	26	20	8	28	35	4	39
OUT-TO-JUSTICES	36	5	41	27	4	31	28	7	35
TOTAL	670	300	970	745	254	999	796	285	1,081

a. In Work -- All cases docketed which are not yet ready for submission.
b. Ready -- All cases ready for submission.
c. Assigned -- All cases which have been assigned to the justices and will be submitted or formally presented to the court within a month.
d. Out-to-Justices -- All cases submitted to the court which have not been decided.
e. For purposes of this table, the 727, 552, and 618 cases transferred to the court of appeals in 1985, 1986, and 1987, respectively, were deducted from the number of ready cases pending before the supreme court.

TABLE 5

AVERAGE DELAY (IN MONTHS) FROM THE TIME A CASE IS READY FOR SUBMISSION TO OPINION SUPREME COURT OF IOWA, 1976-1987

YEAR	TYPE OF CASE			
	CIVIL	PRIORITY CIVIL	CRIMINAL	AVERAGE DELAY
1987	6.8	3.7	3.9	5.8
1986	4.9	3.4	3.5	4.5
1985	6.1	4.0	3.8	5.6
1984	6.2	4.1	4.1	5.4
1983	6.8	3.8	3.7	5.5
1982	7.5	4.6	3.8	5.9
1981	5.9	4.7	4.9	5.2
1980	5.2	4.3	4.8	5.0
1979	5.4	4.0	4.4	5.0
1978	8.3	4.1	4.2	6.5
1977	17.0	4.3	4.5	12.2
1976	20.2	4.0	3.8	9.0

TABLE 6

DISPOSITION OF CASES AT THE SUPREME COURT LEVEL BY ORDER OR OTHER MODE PRIOR TO FORMAL SUBMISSION TO THE COURT - 1987

TYPE OF DISPOSITION	NUMBER OF DISPOSITIONS		
	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL
Voluntary dismissal or withdrawal of appeal or other review by appellant	305	68	373
Dismissal by the clerk pursuant to Rule 19, R. App. P., for failure to cure default within 15 days after notice	36	10	46
Dismissal by court for failure to comply with Rules of Appellate Procedure	--	--	--
Dismissal by court for lack of jurisdiction	6	--	6
Dismissal by court of frivolous criminal appeal pursuant to Rule 104, R. App. P.	--	95	95
Denial of petition for permission to appeal an interlocutory ruling	138	--	138
Denial of petition for writ of certiorari	30	1	31
Denial of petition for discretionary review	37	53	90
Cases transferred to the court of appeals by order of the supreme court	482	136	618
Consolidations[a]	11	7	18
Other	102	22	124
TOTALS	1,147	392	1,539

a. For purposes of this table, cases were classified as consolidated at the time an order granting consolidation was filed.

TABLE 7

NUMBER OF CIVIL, CRIMINAL AND DISCIPLINARY
CASES DISPOSED OF BY OPINION OF THE SUPREME COURT
EN BANC AND BY DIVISION, 1985-1987

	EN BANC			DIVISION			PERCENT EN BANC		
	1985	1986	1987	1985	1986	1987	1985	1986	1987
CIVIL	37	39	28	208	198	195	15.1%	16.5%	12.6%
CRIMINAL	5	11	9	41	78	83	10.9%	12.4%	9.8%
DISCIPLINARY	11	7	3	2	11	22	84.6%	38.9%	12.0%
TOTAL	53	57	40	251	287	300	17.4%	16.6%	11.8%

TABLE 8

NUMBER OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES TRANSFERRED TO, TERMINATED BY AND PENDING BEFORE THE IOWA COURT OF APPEALS 1977-1987

YEAR	TRANSFERRED			TERMINATED			PENDING END OF YEAR		
	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL
1987	482	136	618	428	150	578	155	57	212
1986	392	160	552	440	156	596	99	71	170
1985	524	203	727	459	178	637	147	67	214
1984	412	157	569	397	135	532	80	41	121
1983	330	119	449	405	150	555	65	19	84
1982	397	134	531	307	116	423	140	50	190
1981	305	149	454	348	163	511	50	32	82
1980	344	116	460	303	94	397	93	46	139
1979	263	114	377	259	120	379	52	24	76
1978	245	125	370	267	117	384	48	30	78
1977	330	95	425[a]	260	73	333	70	22	92
TOTAL	4,024	1,508	5,532	3,873	1,452	5,325	999	459	1,458

a. Includes 69 cases -- 56 civil and 13 criminal -- transferred to the court of appeals in late 1976.

TABLE 9

NUMBER AND TYPE OF CASES DISPOSED OF BY OPINION
IOWA COURT OF APPEALS
1982-1987

CASE TYPE	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987
CIVIL						
Administrative law	44	56	31	34	45	44
Contracts	50	54	58	74	61	60
Contested child custody	51	84	51	51	89	83
Domestic relations not involving child custody	53	87	102	106	93	96
Postconviction relief	12	29	27	35	31	27
Property	24	28	37	44	33	25
Taxation	4	3	9	8	4	4
Tort	33	28	41	37	42	50
Trusts, estates, wills	13	16	3	23	17	18
Other	17	14	36	38	20	15
TOTAL CIVIL	301	399	395	450	435	422
CRIMINAL						
Guilty plea only	3	4	4	4	2	8
Sentencing only	9	6	21	20	6	3
Guilty plea and sentencing only	--	4	2	2	1	4
Other	102	135	106	152	145	133
TOTAL CRIMINAL	114	149	133	178	154	148
TOTAL	415	548	528	628	589	570

TABLE 10

APPLICATIONS TO THE SUPREME COURT FOR FURTHER REVIEW OF A COURT OF APPEALS DECISION 1977-1987

YEAR	APPLICATIONS GRANTED			APPLICATIONS DENIED			PERCENT GRANTED
	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	
1987	25	12	37	127	64	191	16.2%
1986	48	12	60	132	89	221	21.4%
1985	33	10	43	173	90	263	14.1%
1984	33	11	44	135	62	197	18.3%
1983	16	7	23	114	60	174	11.7%
1982	12	7	19	125	48	173	9.9%
1981	11	5	16	88	31	119	11.9%
1980	11	2	13	106	38	144	8.3%
1979	6	6	12	78	54	132	8.3%
1978	17	4	21	78	38	116	15.3%
1977	6	4	10	54	16	70	12.5%
TOTAL	218	80	298	1,210	590	1,800	14.2%

TABLE 11

AVERAGE DELAY (IN MONTHS) FROM THE TIME
A CASE IS READY FOR SUBMISSION TO OPINION
IOWA COURT OF APPEALS
1977-1987

YEAR	TYPE OF CASE			AVERAGE DELAY
	CIVIL	PRIORITY CIVIL	CRIMINAL	
1987	6.4	5.0	5.1	5.8
1986	5.5	4.4	4.5	5.0
1985	5.8	4.8	4.7	5.2
1984	5.1	4.4	4.3	4.8
1983	6.3	5.0	5.2	5.7
1982	6.9	5.2	5.3	6.2
1981	5.8	5.0	5.0	5.5
1980	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8
1979	5.2	4.2	4.6	4.9
1978	3.7	4.0	4.1	5.8
1977	16.1	4.6	4.6	12.5

TABLE 12

NUMBER OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES FILED
AT THE APPELLATE COURT LEVEL
1977-1987

YEAR	CIVIL[a]	CRIMINAL	TOTAL
1987	1,337	485	1,822
1986	1,415	465	1,880
1985	1,362	539	1,901
1984	1,297	587	1,884
1983	1,290	491	1,781
1982	1,253	596	1,849
1981	1,175	558	1,733
1980	1,081	539	1,620
1979	1,014	493	1,507
1978	1,003	487	1,490
1977	785	446	1,231
TOTAL	13,012	5,686	18,698
10-Year Increase in Percent	70.3%	8.7%	48.0%

a. Includes attorney disciplinary cases.

II. TRIAL COURT

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT

The unified trial court, known as the "Iowa District Court," became operative July 1, 1973. The district court has general and original jurisdiction of all actions and proceedings, including probate and juvenile matters. Its jurisdiction is exercised by senior judges, district judges, district associate judges, alternate district associate judges, and magistrates. The salary and travel expenses of all judges and magistrates are funded by the state.

The Unified Trial Court Act requires the clerks of the district court to furnish each magistrate, associate judge, or district judge acting as a magistrate, a docket in which to enter all proceedings within their jurisdiction, except those required to be docketed with the clerks and assigned to judicial officers for disposition. The chief judge of a judicial district is authorized to order criminal proceedings combined in a centralized docket.

Magistrates

The Unified Trial Court Act created and allotted 191 part-time magistrate positions to the 99 counties in the state, ranging from one to six per county. The original allotment remained in effect until June 30, 1975. Since that date, the state court administrator has apportioned magistrates among the counties.

A magistrate appointing commission selects the magistrates to fill the positions allotted to the county. The person appointed must be an elector of the county and able to serve a full term of office before reaching the mandatory retirement age of 72. Although a license to practice law is not required, the commission must first consider licensed attorneys. In counties allotted only one such position, the appointing commission is authorized to appoint an additional magistrate and divide the statutory salary. (Adair, Ida, and Monona Counties exercised this option in 1987.) Magistrates serve a two-year term of office commencing July 1 in odd-numbered years. The apportionment made in 1987 appears in **Appendix E.**

As amended, the Unified Trial Court Act authorizes any county or combination of counties with an allotment of three or more magistrate positions to appoint a district associate judge to substitute for three part-time magistrates. The substitution may not occur if it results in the lack of either a resident district associate judge or a magistrate in one or more of the counties. The substitution is made by order of the chief judge of the judicial district on the affirmative vote of a majority of the district judges in the judicial election

district in which the county is located. District associate judges serving in lieu of magistrates are nominated, appointed, and retained in the same manner as regular district associate judges. As they also have the same qualifications, rights, salary, duties, responsibilities, authority, and jurisdiction as regular district associate judges, their work load is totally integrated in this report.

Jurisdiction

Magistrates have jurisdiction of the following:

1. Preliminary hearing cases. [Cases in which they act as committing magistrates on felonies and indictable misdemeanors.] (R.Cr.P. 2(4)(a), The Code.)

2. Nonindictable or simple misdemeanors, including traffic and ordinance violations. [A simple misdemeanor is a criminal offense in which the punishment does not exceed a fine of $100 or imprisonment for 30 days.]

3. County and city infractions.

4. Search warrant proceedings.

5. Emergency hospitalization proceedings. (Section 229.22, The Code.)

6. Lost property actions. [These include issuing a warrant directing a peace officer to appoint appraisers to fix the value of vessels, rafts, logs, and lumber which have been stopped or taken up and determining the ownership of other lost property.] (Chapter 644.)

The above proceedings are all required to be entered in the docket furnished to them by the clerk or in the centralized docket for the county, if one is ordered to be maintained by the chief judge of the judicial district.

7. Small claims. [A small claim includes: (1) a civil action for a money judgment where the amount in controversy is $2,000 or less, exclusive of interest and costs, (2) actions for forcible entry and detainer where no question of title to the property is involved, and (3) an action of replevin where the value of the property claimed is $2,000 or less.

The clerk of the district court is required to maintain the docket for small claims actions. If the action is one for money judgment and it is not disposed of by the clerk through entry of a confession of judgment, default judgment or a

voluntary dismissal, it must be assigned to a judicial officer having jurisdiction of such actions. This is done by delivering the original notice first filed with the clerk to the officer. If it is an action for forcible entry and detainer, the appearance is required before the judicial officer who must handle the entire proceeding, including an order for the issuance of a writ of eviction if the plaintiff prevails. Again, the assignment is perfected by the clerk delivering the original notice first filed and all papers in the case to the judicial officer.

The record of all actions taken by the judicial officer in either type of small claims proceeding, including notes of testimony and judgment entry, is made on the original notice to which exhibits, if any, are attached and returned to the clerk. It serves as a calendar sheet from which the clerk makes proper entries in the small claims docket and on the lien index. Small claims actions are not entered in the docket furnished to judicial officers by the clerk or in the centralized docket used for criminal proceedings.

District Associate Judges

The original act provided for 30 magistrates required to devote full time to their position. One to four positions were authorized to counties in four population categories ranging from 35,000 to over 200,000. The 25 municipal court judges holding office June 30, 1973, became district associate judges and satisfied the requirement of a regular full-time magistrate in the county of their residence. Upon the death, resignation, retirement, removal or nonretention of a district associate judge, a full-time magistrate was appointed to fill the vacancy.

Effective January 1, 1981, full-time magistrates were renamed district associate judges. District associate judges serve four-year terms and stand for retention in office in their judicial election district the same as district judges.

In counties having only one district associate judge, the county magistrate appointing commission is authorized to appoint an alternate district associate judge to act in the temporary absence of a district associate judge. Such alternate is paid on a per diem basis by the state for days of actual service rendered. In 1987, an alternate district associate judge served in Dickinson, Jasper, Marshall, and Warren Counties.

The number of district associate judges by judicial election district and county is illustrated on the next page.

Judicial Election District	County	District Associate Judges
1A	Dubuque	2
1B	Black Hawk	3
2A	Cerro Gordo	1
2B	Boone-Hamilton	1
2B	Marshall	1
2B	Webster	1
2B	Story	2
3A	Dickinson	1
3B	Woodbury	3
4	Pottawattamie	3
5A	Jasper	1
5A	Marion-Jasper	1
5A	Warren	1
5C	Polk	6
6	Johnson	1
6	Linn	4
7	Clinton	1
7	Muscatine	1
7	Scott	3
8A	Wapello	1
8B	Des Moines	2
8B	Lee	2
	TOTAL	42

Jurisdiction

District associate judges have the same jurisdiction as judicial magistrates. In addition, they have jurisdiction of:

1. Civil actions for money judgments where the amount in controversy does not exceed $5,000;

2. Indictable (serious and aggravated) misdemeanors;

3. Felony violations of section 321.281 (operating while intoxicated -- OWI); and

4. Juvenile cases when designated as a judge of the juvenile court by the chief judge of the judicial district.

While exercising such additional jurisdiction, they are not only required to employ district judges' practice and procedure but, as the cases are docketed with the clerk of the district court, they must be assigned and delivered to the judge with a calendar sheet on which to report the disposition of the case.

Trial by Jury and Appeal Provisions

A defendant charged with a nonindictable or simple misdemeanor is entitled to a trial by a six-member jury if he or she files a written jury demand at least ten days before the time set for trial. Failure to make such demand constitutes a waiver of jury. The plaintiff may appeal only upon a finding of invalidity of an ordinance or statute and the defendant only upon a judgment of conviction. [All simple misdemeanor appeals from a decision of a magistrate shall be on the record. Chapter 25, 1987 Iowa Acts.] Either party may appeal from the judgment of the district judge to the supreme court in the same manner as from a judgment in a prosecution by indictment.

A small claims action is tried before the judicial officer to whom it is assigned without the right to a jury. Either party may appeal to a district court judge who is required to hear the matter on the record. If it appears the trial record is incomplete, the district court judge may take additional testimony and evidence. The right of either party to appeal from the judgment of the district judge is entirely within the discretionary power of the supreme court.

District Court Judges

In January 1987, there were 100 district judges in Iowa. Under the judgeship formula computed in March 1987 and February 1988, 105 judgeships were authorized. However, the provisions of Iowa Code section 602.18 limited the maximum number of judgeships to 100. The application of the formula in 1987 and 1988 appear at pages 37 and 38 of this report.

For purposes of administration and ordinary judicial functions, the state is divided into eight judicial districts **(Appendix D)** and into 14 judicial election districts for purposes stated in the footnote to the map appearing on page 35. With 100 judges serving in the eight judicial districts in 1987, the population spread per judge ranged from 24,832 in the 5th District to 32,467 in the 4th. **[Appendix C]**

Jurisdiction

District judges possess the full jurisdiction of the trial court, including the jurisdiction of magistrates. While exercising the latter, they are required to employ the practice and procedure for magistrates. Under the Iowa Probate Code they are the only judges sitting in probate.

Senior Judges

Effective July 1, 1979, the Sixty-eighth General Assembly established a senior judge program whereby retired supreme court justices, court of appeals judges, district court judges, and district associate judges who qualify agree to work up to 13 weeks per year until age 78. The supreme court may not assign a senior judge judicial duties on a court superior to the highest court to which he or she was appointed prior to retirement. A senior judge may not be assigned to the court of appeals or the supreme court except to serve in the temporary absence of a member of that court. A senior judge may not practice law.

While serving on temporary assignment, a senior judge is paid no salary but continues to receive monthly judicial retirement annuities. The senior judge program provides a hedge against inflation by mandating an increase in judicial annuity whenever the current salary of active judges is raised. There is no provision for an increase in judicial annuity for judges who do not participate in the senior judge program.

During 1987, three supreme court justices -- M. L. Mason, C. Edwin Moore, and W. Ward Reynoldson -- 16 district judges -- John N. Hughes, Paul E. Hellwege, Robert O. Frederick, Dale Missildine, R. K. Stohr, Charles W. Antes, Luther T. Glanton, Jr., Dennis D. Damsgaard, Ansel Chapman, T. H. Nelson, M. C. Herrick, L. John Degnan, B. C. Sullivan, Forest E. Eastman, Murray S. Underwood, and Harold J. Swailes -- and one district associate judge -- Don A. Petrucelli -- served as senior judges in Iowa. In August, Judges Mason and Moore retired as senior judges. In October, Judges Underwood, Reynoldson, and Swailes commenced their duties as senior judges. In this report, the work of these judges is combined with the caseload of the judicial officers with whom they worked.

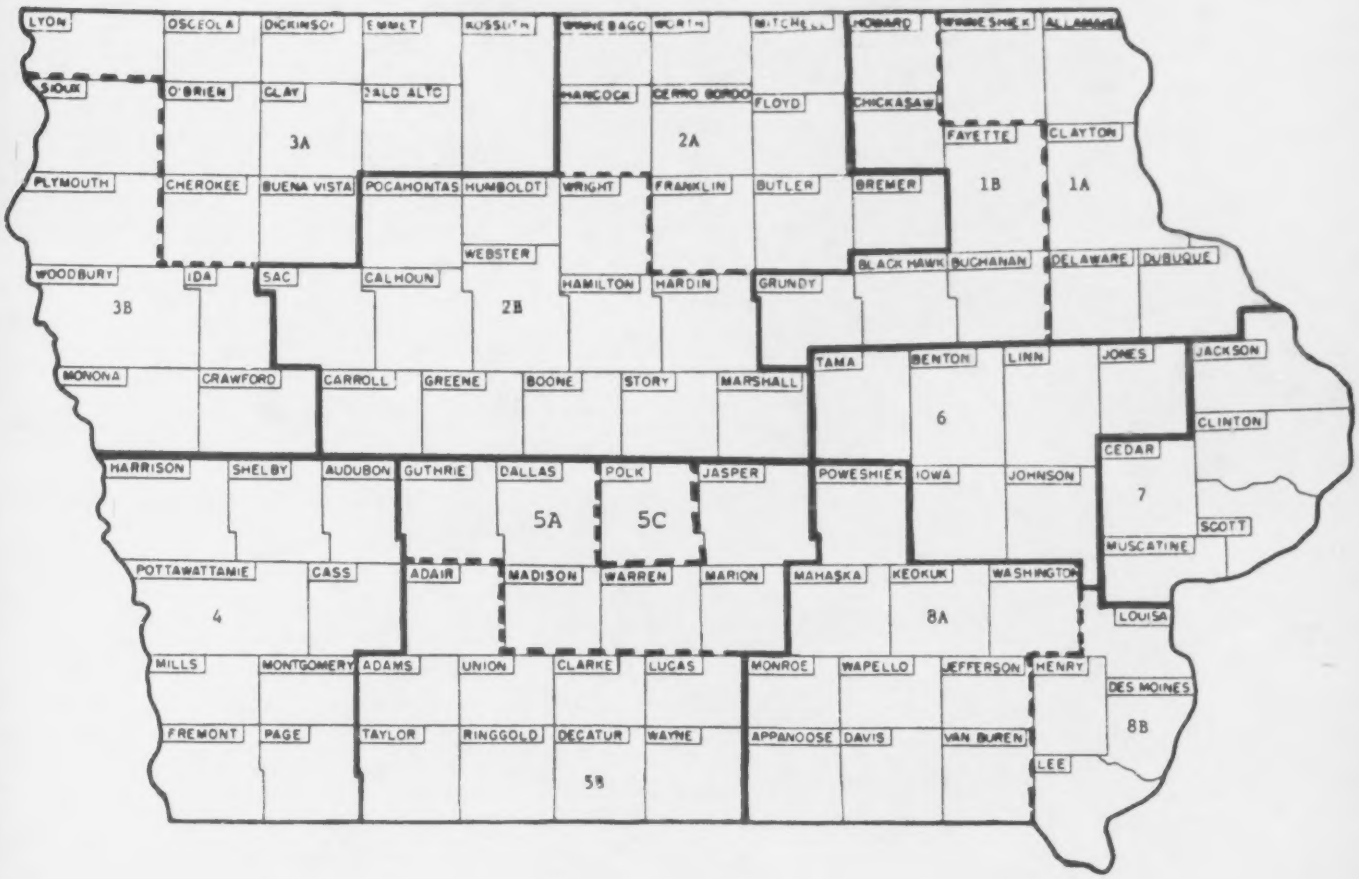
Clerks of District Court

The clerk's office in the 99 counties performed two important functions during 1987 which reduced the work load of the judicial officers in each county. These were:

1. Kept the small claims docket and, through the entry of confessions of judgment, default judgments, and voluntary dismissals in actions for money judgment, avoided the necessity of assigning many such cases to judicial officers. **[Tables 12(d), 14(e) and 15]**

2. Maintained a traffic and scheduled violations office where violations were admitted and disposed of upon payment of the minimum fine and costs before the time specified for appearance before the court on a uniform citation and complaint issued to the alleged violator. **[Table 16]**

IOWA'S 8 JUDICIAL DISTRICTS AND 14 JUDICIAL ELECTION DISTRICTS*



*Judicial election districts are for the purpose of nomination, appointment and election of district judges, the application of the judgeship formula, and the appointment and election of district associate judges.

Judgeship Formula

The judgeship formula gives equal weight to population and filings. The formula authorizes one judge for every 550 combined civil and criminal filings (3-year average) in judicial election districts having a city of 50,000 or more population and one judge for every 450 such filings in districts not having a city that large. The population factor allows one judge for every 40,000 residents. There is a statutory cap of 100 on the number of district judges authorized, irrespective of the application of the formula.

Application of the judgeship formula for 1987 and 1988, respectively, is illustrated by the tables that follow.

NUMBER OF DISTRICT JUDGES AUTHORIZED BY THE JUDGESHIP FORMULA BASED EQUALLY ON A THREE-YEAR AVERAGE OF COMBINED CIVIL AND CRIMINAL FILINGS AND POPULATION

JUDICIAL ELECTION DISTRICT	FILINGS	POPULATION	FORMULA JUDGESHIPS[c]	RESIDENT JUDGES
1A[a]	2,721 (4.95)	172,900 (4.32)	5	4
1B[a]	6,202 (11.28)	220,900 (5.52)	8	8
2A	3,867 (8.59)	170,200 (4.26)	6	6
2B	7,381 (16.40)	318,500 (7.96)	12	11
3A	3,408 (7.57)	154,100 (3.85)	6	5
3B[a]	5,437 (9.89)	195,300 (4.88)	7	6
4[a]	5,000 (9.09)	197,700 (4.94)	7	6
5A	3,415 (7.59)	157,200 (3.93)	6	5
5B	2,099 (4.66)	77,500 (1.94)	3	4
5C[a,b]	8,768 (15.94)	305,300 (7.63)	13	13
6[a]	7,797 (14.18)	327,900 (8.20)	11	11
7[a]	7,534 (13.70)	297,900 (7.45)	11	10
8A	3,685 (8.19)	170,600 (4.27)	6	6
8B	2,584 (5.74)	117,400 (2.94)	4	5
STATE TOTALS	69,898	2,883,400	105	100

[a]District with a city of 50,000 or more population.
[b]One additional judgeship for seat of government.
[c]Equal weight given to filings and population. In districts containing a city of 50,000 or more population (i.e., 1A, 1B, 3B, 4, 5C, 6 and 7), there shall be one judgeship per 550 combined civil and criminal filings, with exclusions listed in Iowa Code section 602.6201(3), as amended by ch. 1148, 1986 Iowa Acts, and 40,000 population, or major fraction of either. In all other districts there shall be one judgeship per 450 filings or 40,000 population. The filing and population fractions are added together and then divided by two.

Prepared by: State Court Administrator, Statehouse, Des Moines, Iowa 50319
March 2, 1987

NUMBER OF DISTRICT JUDGES AUTHORIZED BY THE JUDGESHIP FORMULA BASED EQUALLY ON A THREE-YEAR AVERAGE OF COMBINED CIVIL AND CRIMINAL FILINGS AND POPULATION

JUDICIAL ELECTION DISTRICT	FILINGS	POPULATION	FORMULA JUDGESHIPS[c]	RESIDENT JUDGES
1A[a]	2,708 (4.92)	168,000 (4.20)	5	4
1B[a]	5,668 (10.31)	211,600 (5.29)	8	8
2A	3,785 (8.41)	166,700 (4.17)	6	6
2B	7,293 (16.21)	315,600 (7.89)	12	11
3A	3,403 (7.56)	149,500 (3.74)	6	5
3B[a]	5,554 (10.10)	191,200 (4.78)	7	6
4[a]	4,766 (8.67)	194,800 (4.87)	7	6
5A	3,446 (7.66)	155,000 (3.88)	6	5
5B	1,942 (4.32)	75,500 (1.89)	3	4
5C[a,b]	9,236 (16.79)	315,800 (7.90)	13	13
6[a]	8,199 (14.91)	330,600 (8.27)	12	11
7[a]	7,355 (13.37)	292,400 (7.31)	10	10
8A	3,589 (7.98)	167,600 (4.19)	6	6
8B	2,531 (5.62)	116,500 (2.91)	4	5
STATE TOTALS	**69,475**	**2,850,800**	**105***	**100**

[a]District with a city of 50,000 or more population.
[b]One additional judgeship for seat of government.
[c]In judicial election districts containing a city of 50,000 or more population (i.e., 1A, 1B, 3B, 4, 5C, 6 and 7), there shall be one judgeship per 550 combined civil and criminal filings, with exclusions listed in Iowa Code section 602.6201(3), and 40,000 population, giving equal weight to each quotient. All other districts are entitled to one judgeship per 450 filings or 40,000 population. The filing and population quotients are added together, divided by two (averaged), and rounded to the nearest hundredth.

*Although the 1988 application of the judgeship formula created five (5) vacancies, the provisions of Iowa Code section 602.6201, subsection 10, limit the maximum number of district judges to one hundred (100) and, consequently, prohibit the vacancies from being filled.

Prepared by: State Court Administrator, Statehouse, Des Moines, Iowa 50319
February 22, 1988

ANALYSIS OF STATISTICS

Regular Civil and Criminal Cases

For the purpose of the following discussion, regular civil cases include all law, equity, and special proceedings docketed in the office of the clerk except in the small claims docket. An appeal from a decision of a judicial magistrate in a small claims action also is considered a regular civil case.

Regular criminal cases include all felony and indictable misdemeanors (serious and aggravated). A felony is a public offense which is, or in the discretion of the court may be, punished by imprisonment in the state penitentiary, men's reformatory or women's reformatory. An indictable misdemeanor is a public offense, less than a felony, in which the punishment exceeds a fine of $100 or imprisonment for more than 30 days in the county jail. An appeal from a decision or verdict in a nonindictable or simple misdemeanor case becomes a regular criminal case when docketed by the clerk as a regular criminal action.

A total of 94,812 regular civil and criminal cases were docketed in the clerks' offices during 1987. This was a 3.7 percent decrease from the 98,418 civil and criminal cases docketed in 1986. A comparison of cases docketed for 1986 and 1987 reveals that while criminal filings decline .6 of one percent (45,391 to 45,115), civil filings dropped 6.3 percent (53,027 to 49,697).

A number of regular civil cases and indictable misdemeanors filed in district court were assigned to district associate judges for disposition. The total number of regular civil and indictable criminal dispositions by district and district associate judges in 1987 was 98,285 -- a decrease of 2.5 percent from the 100,829 cases disposed of in 1986. There were 3,473 more cases pending December 31, 1987, than on January 1 of that year; the number of pending cases decreased in all but the 3rd District. **[Tables 1, 2(a) and 3(a)]**

District Judges' Activities

During 1987, district court judges disposed of 54,414 regular civil cases: 512 or 0.9 percent by trial to jury, 5,047 or 9.3 percent by trial to court, and 48,855 or 89.8 percent without trial. The number of civil dispositions per judge ranged from 409 in the 4th District to 679 in the 7th. Statewide, there were 550 civil dispositions per district court judge, up from 548 in 1986. **[Tables 2(a), (b) and (d)]**

During 1987, district judges disposed of 16,847 regular criminal cases: 439 or 2.6 percent by trial to jury, 647 or 3.8 percent by trial to court and 15,761 or 93.6 percent without trial. The number of criminal dispositions per judge ranged from 105 in the 8th District to 346 in the 3rd. Statewide, there were 168 criminal dispositions per district court judge. **[Tables 3(a), (b) and (d)]**

The average number of civil and criminal cases disposed of per judge (713), with the rank of each district, is shown on **Table 4.** The 7th District recorded the highest number of civil/criminal dispositions per judge (818) while the 8th District had the lowest number of dispositions per judge (531).

District Associate Judges' Activities

There were 680 regular civil cases assigned to district associate judges during 1987 -- a 96.0 percent increase from the 347 cases assigned in 1986. During 1987, the judges of limited jurisdiction disposed of 550 regular civil cases, five or 0.9 percent by jury trial, 109 or 19.8 percent by trial to court, and 436 or 79.3 percent without trial. On a per judge basis, dispositions ranged from 0 in the 4th District to 178 in the 3rd. **[Tables 2(a), (c) and (d)]**

During 1987, 27,585 regular criminal cases (indictable misdemeanors and simple misdemeanors on appeal) were assigned to district associate judges as compared to 26,508 assigned to such judicial officers in 1986. Of the 26,424 criminal cases disposed of by district associate judges in 1987, 280 or 1.1 percent were resolved by trial to jury, 270 or 1.0 percent by trial to court, and 25,874 or 97.9 percent without trial. On a per judge basis, dispositions ranged from 466 in the 8th District to 903 in the 1st. **[Tables 3(a), (c) and (d)]**

Civil and Criminal Filings by Case Type

Dissolution filings (and modifications) represented 34.0 percent (16,880) of the 49,697 civil cases docketed in the district court in 1987. **[Table 5]** These cases, combined with other actions involving domestic relations such as child support recovery (6,364) and domestic abuse (249), accounted for nearly one half (47.3 percent) of all civil cases filed in the district court.

Table 5 also shows that 841 (3.1 percent) of the 27,084 small claims rulings by judicial officers of limited jurisdiction were appealed on the record to the district court, pursuant to Iowa Code section 631.13. Such appeals comprised 1.6 percent of the civil case filings.

In the criminal area, the 15,827 first and second offense drunken driver cases (OWI--operating while intoxicated) represented 43.5 percent of the indictable misdemeanor filings and 35.1 percent of all the regular criminal cases, i.e., felonies, indictable misdemeanors (serious and aggravated), and simple misdemeanors on appeal. **[Table 6]**

The 8,230 felony filings represented 18.2 percent of the 45,115 criminal cases docketed. Only 0.2 of one percent (533) of the 229,652 simple misdemeanors handled by district associate judges and magistrates were appealed to the district court for a new trial, pursuant to rule 54, Rules of Criminal Procedure. Such appeals comprised 1.2 percent of the criminal filings.

Pending Regular Civil and Criminal Cases

Of the 43,278 regular civil cases pending at the end of the year, 9,683 or 22 percent were over 18 months old. During 1987, the number of civil cases pending over 18 months decreased by 1,224 or 10.9 percent. **[Appendix A]** The proportion of pending civil cases over 18 months old ranged from 14 percent in the 5th District to 31 percent in the 3rd. In each of the eight districts there were less civil cases pending at the end of the year than at the beginning.

There were 1,790 more criminal cases pending on December 31, 1987, than on January 1. Of the 19,473 regular criminal cases pending at the end of 1987, 3,694 or 19 percent were over 18 months old -- 34 percent (6,676) had been pending 3 to 18 months. **[Appendix B]** The 3rd District had the highest percentage of cases pending over 90 days (68 percent); the 4th District had the lowest percentage of criminal cases over 90 days old (40 percent).

Probate Matters

The district judges exercise the probate jurisdiction of the unified trial court. There were 838 trusteeships opened in 1987 -- up 6.3 percent from the previous year. **[Table 7(a)]** The number of trusteeships opened ranged from 36 in the 4th District to 166 in the 2nd. During 1987, 3,706 guardianships and conservatorships were opened -- down 1.9 percent from 1986; the number of cases ranged from 257 in the 4th to 764 in the 5th. Some 19,866 decedent estates were opened in 1987 -- an increase of 640 or 3.3 percent. The number of estates opened varied from 1,323 in the 4th District to 3,861 in the 2nd. Statewide, there were 13 jury trials and 337 trials to court in contested probate matters. **[Table 7(a)]**

Of the 18,241 estates closed during 1987, 57 percent were closed within one year, 32 percent from 1-3 years, and 11 percent after three years. In 1987, 65 percent of the estates were settled within one year in the 8th District; in 1986, 58 percent were closed within one year. **[Table 7(b)]** The number of decedents' estates closed during 1987 was 1,625 less than the number of new estates opened. **[Tables 7(a) and (b)]**

Juvenile Matters

Juvenile matters are heard by district judges, juvenile referees, and district associate judges designated by the chief judge of the judicial district to act as judges of the juvenile court. There were 6,064 juvenile petitions filed in the district court clerks' offices during 1987 -- 303 fewer petitions than in 1986. **[Table 8(a)]** Juvenile petitions were classified into four general categories: delinquency (3,429), child in need of assistance or CHINA (2,572), family in need of assistance or FINA (22), and interstate compacts or extradition (41). All but four of the FINA petitions were filed in the 5th and 7th Districts.

The number and type of formal hearings in juvenile matters are illustrated in **Table 8(b).** Figures show there were 3,804 adjudication hearings, 5,453 disposition hearings, 6,584 review hearings, 1,410 shelter/detention hearings, and 4,567 other hearings, for a grand total of 21,818 -- up 1,400 from 1986. Thirty-five percent of the juvenile hearings were handled by district associate judges, 61 percent were conducted by referees, and 4 percent by district judges.

Termination of Parental Rights

For statistical purposes, termination of parental rights cases were separated from regular juvenile matters involving delinquent children and minors or families in need of assistance. As indicated in **Table 9,** there were 901 petitions for termination of parental rights filed in the district court during 1987 -- an increase of 52 cases from 1986. Twenty-five percent (247) involved involuntary or contested proceedings. The largest number of termination cases (241) was docketed in the 5th District; the fewest petitions (58) were filed in the 4th District. There were 1,052 formal hearings held on these matters -- up 251 or 31.3 percent from 1986.

Hospitalization Hearings

Table 10 shows the number and type of hospitalization hearings. There were 5,055 hospitalization hearings in Iowa during 1987 -- 142 involuntary minor, 2,256 involuntary adult, 1,250 emergency, and 1,407 substance abuse. Eighty-two percent of the hearings were held by judicial hospitalization referees.

General Activities of District Associate Judges

Other than regular civil and criminal cases, termination of parental rights, and juvenile matters discussed above, a total of 136,241 cases were docketed or assigned and 130,595 cases were disposed of by the 42 associate judges during 1987. There were 53,725 cases pending at the end of the year. The number of cases docketed and assigned ranged from 5,376 in the 4th District to 63,554 in the 5th. The total number of simple misdemeanor and small claims cases pending at the end of the year varied from 771 in the 7th District to 40,577 in the 5th. The number of each type of case filed, terminated, and pending during 1987, appears in **Tables 12(a) through 12(d).**

As committing magistrates for indictable offenses, district associate judges conducted 18,863 initial appearance proceedings and 298 preliminary hearings in indictable criminal cases, pursuant to rule 2, Rules of Criminal Procedure. **[Table 12(a)]** Over two-thirds of the initial appearances were held in the 5th, 6th, and 7th Districts; over half of the preliminary hearings by associated judges occurred in the 8th District.

There were 12,096 nonindictable state cases (simple misdemeanors) carried over from 1986. During 1987, 51,129 were docketed as compared to 50,111 in 1986. Of the 50,920 state cases terminated during 1987, the judges disposed of 118 or 0.2 percent by trial to jury, 1,847 or 3.6 percent by trial to court and 48,955 or 96.2 percent without trial. The number of simple misdemeanor state cases pending at the end of 1987 (12,305) was 209 more than the number pending at the beginning of the year. During 1987, the associate judges of the 5th District had by far the largest number of nonindictable state cases docketed, terminated, and pending. **[Table 12(b)]**

Some 35,470 simple misdemeanor ordinance cases were pending from 1986. During 1987, 49,705 were docketed and 44,136 were disposed of: 78 or less than 0.2 percent by trial to jury, 2,016 or 4.6 percent by trial to court, and 42,042 or 95.2 percent without trial. The number of pending cases increased 15.7 percent from 35,470 to 41,039. **[Table 12(c)]**

During 1987, district associate judges entertained 478 search warrant applications and conducted 203 seized property hearings. Over three-fourths of the applications for search warrants handled by district associate judges occurred in the 2nd, 5th, 6th, and 7th Districts; over half of the seized property hearings occurred in the 1st District. **[Table 14(d)]** There were also 117 hospitalization hearings held by the 42 district associate judges.

There were 15,448 small claims assigned and 15,480 cases terminated by associate judges during 1987. **[Table 12(d)]** The judges resolved 5,154 or 33.3 percent by trial to the court and 10,326 or 66.7 percent without trial. Of those disposed of without trial, 9,502 or 92.0 percent were defaulted and 824 or 8.0 percent were either dismissed or transferred. Over half of the small claims cases handled by such judges were assigned and disposed of in the 5th District.

District associate judges also disposed of 62 civil infractions in 1987. **[Table 12(d)]**

Magistrates

In 1987, 169,592 cases were docketed or assigned to 158 magistrates; they disposed of 168,355 or 1,066 cases per magistrate. **[Table 13]** The number of dispositions per magistrate ranged from 795 (3rd District) to 1,383 (1st District). Over one-fourth of the cases pending at the end of the year were in the 1st District. [Note: Judicial districts vary in population from 194,800 (4th) to 546,300 (5th) and in the number of magistrates from 13 (7th) to 32 (2nd).]

As shown in **Table 14(a)**, there were 19,890 initial appearances and 737 preliminary hearings conducted by magistrates in indictable criminal cases. While the largest number of such actions was in the 2nd District, magistrates in the 4th District had the fewest number of initial appearances and magistrates in the 1st District had the smallest number of preliminary hearings.

There were 91,586 nonindictable state cases (simple misdemeanors) docketed before magistrates in 1987. [Table 14(b)] The magistrates disposed of 90,879 cases -- 151 or 0.2 percent by trial to jury, 7,535 or 8.3 percent by trial to court, and 83,193 or 91.5 percent without trial. The 6th District had the most jury trials (46) while the 3rd District reported the least (2). There were 17,145 nonindictable cases docketed in the 2nd District; only 7,708 were docketed in the 4th District.

Statistics on nonindictable ordinance cases disclose that 44,297 cases were docketed, 43,717 were disposed, and 5,553 were still pending on December 31, 1987. Ninety-three percent of the ordinance cases were disposed of without a contested trial to a judge or jury. The 24 magistrates in the 1st District handled 14,001 ordinance cases or over one-third of the state total. **[Table 14(c)]**

Overall, magistrates terminated 134,596 simple misdemeanors in 1987 compared to 123,615 in 1986.

Magistrates entertained 771 applications for search warrants, conducted 98 seized property hearings and handled 162 lost property actions during 1987. **[Table 14(d)]** There were 583 search warrant applications and 208 seized property hearings before magistrates in 1986.

Statewide, for all judicial officers, the number of search warrant applications increased 16.7 percent (1,177 to 1,373); the number of seized property hearings plummeted 57.7 percent (837 to 354) since 1986. Magistrates in the 4th and 8th Districts received the largest number of search warrant applications; those in the 8th District conducted the most seized property hearings. Considering the work of all judicial officers on these matters, the highest volume of applications for search warrants was in the 4th District; the 1st District had the highest number of seized property hearings.

As shown in **Table 14(e)**, magistrates disposed of 11,604 small claims cases in 1987. Over sixty percent (7,010) of the small claims were tried before the court; the remaining 4,594 cases (3,491 defaults and 1,103 dismissals or transfers) were disposed of without a trial. The 2nd District had the largest number of small claims assigned to magistrates tried to court (1,548); the 7th District the highest number of cases pending (639) before magistrates at the end of the year.

Magistrates also handled six civil infractions and accepted 50 first offense OWI guilty pleas. **[Tables 3(a) and 14(e)]**

District Court Clerks

The 99 clerks of the district court played an important role not only in record keeping but in the handling of small claims (dismissals and defaults) and scheduled violations. As noted above, under the Unified Trial Court Act, district court clerks are authorized to docket and assign small claims and enter dismissals and defaults. Cases involving forcible entry and detainer must be handled by a judge.

District court clerks also are responsible for handling scheduled violations in which the defendant mails in or delivers his or her admission, scheduled fine, surcharge, and court cost to the clerk's scheduled violations office before the time specified on the citation and complaint for court appearance. In addition, clerks are the custodians of collection boxes used at weigh stations for the deposit of fines and costs in cases involving weight and other non-moving scheduled violations of commercial carriers.

Table 15 shows that more small claims were disposed of by clerks (36,183) than judges (27,084). While clerks in the 3rd District took care of nearly three-fourths of the small claims terminated in their district, in the 5th District they handled only 43.2 percent of the small claims dispositions. Overall, 57.2 percent of the small claims were disposed of by district court clerks.

As noted in **Table 16,** the district court clerks disposed of 464,384 scheduled violations without the attention or assistance of any judicial officer -- 11,926 more than the number processed by clerks in 1986. On the average, a district court clerk disposed of 4,691 scheduled violations in 1987. The number of scheduled violations ranged from 188 in Ringgold County to 95,071 in Polk County.

Summary of Trial Court Statistics

There were 49,697 regular civil cases (over $2,000 and small claims on appeal) and 45,115 regular criminal cases (indictable misdemeanors, felonies, and simple misdemeanors on appeal) filed in the district court during 1987. This represented a 6.3 percent decrease in civil filings and a 0.6 percent drop in criminal filings since 1986. **[Appendix F]**

There was a total of 98,285 civil/criminal dispositions in 1987. The number of civil cases terminated rose by 332 or 0.6 percent (54,632 to 54,964); the number of criminal dispositions decreased 6.2 percent (46,197 to 43,321) from 1986 figures. **[Tables 5 and 6]** There were 517 jury trials and 5,156 court trials of civil cases; in criminal matters there were 719 jury trials and 917 court trials. Statistics show that 89.7 percent of the civil cases and 96.2 percent of the criminal cases were disposed of without trial. **[Tables 2(b), 2(c), 3(b), and 3(c)]**

There were 43,278 civil cases pending at the end of 1987 compared with 48,545 on January 1 -- a decrease of 5,267 or 10.8 percent. The number of pending criminal cases increased 10.1 percent (17,683 to 19,473). Of the cases pending statewide, 22 percent of the civil cases and 47 percent of the criminal cases were pending three months or less; 23 percent of the civil cases and 19 percent of the criminal cases were over 18 months old. **[Appendices A and B]**

In 1987, there were 713 civil/criminal dispositions per district judge -- 31 less than in 1986. **[Appendix H]** District court judges in the 7th District had the highest rate of civil/criminal dispositions per judge (919); in the 8th District the average number of dispositions was 531. **[Table 4]**

A review of the type of cases docketed in the district court shows that 47.3 percent of the 49,697 civil filings involved domestic relations -- dissolutions and modifications (16,880), uniform support actions (6,364), and domestic abuse (249). **[Table 5]** Parenthetically, the largest category of criminal cases was first and second offense OWI (operating while intoxicated). OWI comprised 35.1 percent or 15,827 of the 45,115 criminal filings. **[Table 6]** Appeals of simple misdemeanors (533) and small claims appeals (785) represented only 1.2 percent of the criminal filings and 1.6 percent of the civil filings, respectively. Statistically, only 0.2 percent of the 229,914 simple misdemeanors and 2.9 percent of the 27,084 small claims cases disposed of by judicial officers were appealed to the district court for a second ruling.

The number of probate matters opened climbed 2.6 percent (23,793 to 24,410) during 1987; there were 838 trusteeships, 3,706 guardianships and conservatorships, and 19,866 estates. Corresponding figures for 1986 were 788, 3,779, and 19,226, respectively. The number of estates closed rose 1.0 percent from 18,068 to 18,241; 57 percent of the estates were closed within a one-year period.

There was a 4.8 percent drop in the number of juvenile petitions filed (6,367 to 6,064) compared with 1986 figures; on the other hand, the number of formal juvenile hearings jumped 6.9 percent (20,418 to 21,818). Sixty-one percent of the juvenile hearings were conducted by juvenile referees; 35 percent were handled by district associate judges; district judges were credited with only 4 percent of the juvenile hearings. In addition to the regular juvenile cases, there were 901 petitions and 1,050 formal hearings involving termination of parental rights; there were 849 and 801 such matters the previous year.

The average district judge terminated 713 regular civil/criminal cases and tried 66 contested civil/criminal cases during 1987. The average district associate judge terminated 642 civil/criminal cases and tried 16 contested civil/criminal matters.

There were 229,652 nonindictable state and ordinance cases disposed of in 1987 -- down 1.1 percent from the number (232,211) handled in 1986. Ninety-four percent of the simple misdemeanor cases were disposed of without a contested trial. Judicial officers held 38,753 initial appearances in indictable criminal cases, conducted 1,035 preliminary hearings, entertained 1,373 applications for search warrants, conducted 354 seized property hearings, disposed of 262 lost property actions and 68 civil infractions, and handled 5,023 hospitalization hearings. Judicial officers disposed of 27,084 small claims actions while the clerks of the district court handled 36,183. There were 464,384 scheduled violations processed in the clerks' offices.

TABLE 1

CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES[a] DOCKETED,
DISPOSED OF[b] AND PENDING IN 1987
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1986[c]

(Hereafter referred to as Regular Civil
and Criminal Cases)

DISTRICT[b]	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED BY CLERK	DISPOSED OF	PENDING DECEMBER 31	CHANGE IN PENDING
1	8,114	12,082	12,752	7,444	-670
2	10,122	13,321	13,607	9,836	-286
3	9,328	12,056	12,037	9,347	+19
4	3,819	6,037	6,064	3,792	-27
5	13,767	19,628	21,056	12,339	-1,428
6	8,771	12,702	13,049	8,424	-347
7	7,634	10,772	11,480	6,926	-708
8	4,669	8,214	8,240	4,643	-26
1987 Statewide	66,224[d]	94,812	98,285	62,751	-3,473
1986 Statewide	68,639	98,418	100,829	66,228	-2,411

a. Includes felonies and indictable misdemeanors (serious and aggravated) and actions for money judgments, other than small claims, where the amount in controversy exceeds $2,000. Also includes simple misdemeanors and small claims appealed to the district court. Does not include juvenile or probate cases.
b. There were 16 senior judges, 100 district court judges, 42 district associate judges, and three alternate district associate judges serving Iowa during all or part of 1987. In this report, the activity of the senior judges is included in the terminations by district and district associate judges with whom they worked. Dispositions by alternate district associate judges are combined with the productivity of district associate judges.
c. See map showing districts and 1986 population, **Appendix D.**
d. This figures differs from that of December 31, 1986, due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 2

(a)

REGULAR CIVIL CASES

ACTIVITY DURING 1987 WITH TOTALS COMPARED
TO THOSE OF 1986

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	ASSOCIATE JUDGES[a] ASSIGNED TO	ASSOCIATE JUDGES[a] DISPOSED BY	DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSITIONS	PENDING DECEMBER 31
1	6,056	5,933	69	55	6,486	6,541	5,448
2	7,969	7,151	70	68	7,746	7,814	7,306
3	6,393	5,570	179	178	5,848	6,026	5,937
4	2,726	3,241	—	—	3,272	3,272	2,695
5	11,236	11,056	20	26	13,002	13,028	9,264
6	5,715	6,014	34	29	6,589	6,618	5,111
7	5,076	6,093	230	124	6,786	6,910	4,259
8	3,374	4,639	78	70	4,685	4,755	3,258
1987 Statewide	48,545	49,697	680	550	54,414	54,964	43,278
1986 Statewide	50,150	53,027	347	348	54,284	54,632	48,545

a. Includes the work of 42 district associate judges and three alternate district associate judges. The nine district associate judges substituting for judicial magistrates served Polk (2), Dickinson, Story, Woodbury, Warren, Linn, Pottawattamie, and Des Moines Counties during 1987; alternate district associate judges served in Dickinson, Marshall, and Warren Counties. As district associate judges serving in lieu of magistrates have the same qualifications, jurisdiction, and responsibilities as the other district associate judges, they are considered one and the same and counted as regular district associate judges in these tables.

TABLE 2

(b)

REGULAR CIVIL CASES
DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT JUDGES

Methods of Disposition During 1987
With Totals Compared to Those of 1986

DISTRICT	JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSED OF	TRIED TO JURY	PERCENT TRIED TO JURY	TRIED TO COURT	PERCENT TRIED TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL	PERCENT WITHOUT TRIAL
1	12	6,486	43	0.7%	520	8.0%	5,923	91.3%
2	17	7,746	51	0.7%	689	8.9%	7,006	90.5%
3	11	5,848	67	1.2%	339	5.8%	5,442	93.1%
4	6	3,272	48	1.5%	466	14.2%	2,758	84.3%
5	22	13,002	178	1.4%	1,508	11.6%	11,316	87.0%
6	11	6,589	43	0.7%	380	5.8%	6,166	93.6%
7	10	6,786	39	0.6%	558	8.2%	6,189	91.2%
8	11	4,685	43	0.9%	587	12.5%	4,055	86.6%
1987 Statewide	100	54,414	512	0.9%	5,047	9.3%	48,855	89.8%
1986 Statewide	99	54,284	533	1.0%	4,903	9.0%	48,848	89.8%

TABLE 2

(c)

REGULAR CIVIL CASES
DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT ASSOCIATE JUDGES

Methods of Disposition During 1987
With Totals Compared to Those of 1986

DISTRICT	JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSED OF	TRIED TO JURY	PERCENT TRIED TO JURY	TRIED TO COURT	PERCENT TRIED TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL	PERCENT WITHOUT TRIAL
1	5	55	—	—	4	7.3%	51	92.7%
2	6	68	2	3.0%	36	53.0%	30	44.1%
3	4	178	3	1.7%	9	5.0%	166	93.3%
4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	9	26	—	—	12	46.2%	14	53.9%
6	5	29	—	—	7	24.1%	22	75.9%
7	5	124	—	—	3	2.4%	121	97.6%
8	5	70	—	—	38	54.2%	32	45.7%
1987 Statewide	42	550	5	0.9%	109	19.8%	436	79.3%
1986 Statewide	39	348	—	—	107	30.7%	241	69.3%

TABLE 2

(d)

REGULAR CIVIL CASES DISPOSED OF PER JUDGE DURING 1987
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1986

DISTRICT	DISTRICT JUDGES			ASSOCIATE JUDGES		
	NUMBER	DISPOSITIONS	PER JUDGE (AVERAGE)	NUMBER	DISPOSITIONS	PER JUDGE (AVERAGE)
1	12	6,486	541	5	55	11
2	17	7,746	484	6	68	11
3	11	5,848	650	4	178	45
4	6	3,272	409	3	—	—
5	22	13,002	591	9	26	3
6	11	6,589	599	5	29	6
7	10	6,786	679	5	124	25
8	11	4,685	426	5	70	14
1987 Statewide	100	54,414	550	42	550	13
1986 Statewide	99	54,284	548	39	349	9

TABLE 3

(a)

REGULAR CRIMINAL CASES

ACTIVITY DURING 1987 WITH TOTALS COMPARED
TO THOSE OF 1986

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	OTHER JUDGES[a] ASSIGNED TO	OTHER JUDGES[a] DISPOSED BY	DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSITIONS	PENDING DECEMBER 31
1	2,058	6,149	4,666	4,517	1,694	6,211	1,966
2	2,153	6,170	3,135	2,927	2,866	5,793	2,530
3	2,935	6,486	3,143	2,899	3,112	6,011	3,410
4	1,093	2,796	1,561	1,574	1,218	2,792	1,097
5	2,531	8,572	4,758	4,700	3,328	8,028	3,075
6	3,056	6,688	4,464	4,350	2,081	6,431	3,313
7	2,558	4,679	3,459	3,175	1,395	4,570	2,667
8	1,295	3,575	2,449	2,332	1,153	3,485	1,385
1987 Statewide	17,679[b]	45,115	27,635	26,474	16,847	43,371	19,473
1986 Statewide	18,489	45,391	26,508	26,810	19,387	46,197	17,683

a. Includes the work of district associate judges who handle indictable misdemeanors (serious and aggravated) and magistrates who accepted guilty pleas in first offense drunken driving cases (OWI). Magistrates in the Second Judicial District handled 50 OWI guilty pleas in 1987.

b. This figures differs from that of December 31, 1986, due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 3

(b)

REGULAR CRIMINAL CASES
DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT JUDGES

Methods of Disposition During 1987
With Totals Compared to Those of 1986

DISTRICT	JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSED OF	TRIED TO JURY	PERCENT TRIED TO JURY	TRIED TO COURT	PERCENT TRIED TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL	PERCENT WITHOUT TRIAL
1	12	1,694	35	2.1%	139	8.2%	1,520	89.7%
2	17	2,866	53	1.8%	103	3.6%	2,710	94.6%
3	11	3,112	43	1.4%	48	1.5%	3,021	97.1%
4	6	1,218	31	2.6%	10	0.8%	1,177	96.6%
5	22	3,328	150	4.5%	280	8.4%	2,898	87.1%
6	11	2,081	47	2.3%	23	1.1%	2,011	96.6%
7	10	1,395	56	4.0%	6	0.4%	1,333	95.6%
8	11	1,153	24	2.1%	38	3.3%	1,091	94.6%
1987 Statewide	100	16,847	439	2.6%	647	3.8%	15,761	93.6%
1986 Statewide	99	19,387	447	2.3%	699	3.6%	18,241	94.1%

TABLE 3

(c)

REGULAR CRIMINAL CASES
DISPOSED OF BY DISTRICT ASSOCIATE JUDGES

Methods of Disposition During 1987
With Totals Compared to Those of 1986

DISTRICT	JUDGES	TOTAL DISPOSED OF	TRIED TO JURY	PERCENT TRIED TO JURY	TRIED TO COURT	PERCENT TRIED TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL	PERCENT WITHOUT TRIAL
1	5	4,517	30	0.6%	71	1.6%	4,416	97.8%
2	6	2,877	59	2.1%	43	1.5%	2,775	96.5%
3	4	2,899	10	0.3%	17	0.6%	2,872	99.1%
4	3	1,574	7	0.4%	0	—	1,567	99.6%
5	9	4,700	45	1.0%	21	0.5%	4,634	98.6%
6	5	4,350	66	1.5%	34	0.8%	4,250	97.7%
7	5	3,175	31	1.0%	4	0.1%	3,140	99.9%
8	5	2,332	32	1.4%	80	3.4%	2,220	95.2%
1987 Statewide	42	26,424	280	1.1%	270	1.0%	25,874	97.9%
1986 Statewide	39	26,810	276	1.0%	316	1.2%	26,218	97.8%

TABLE 3

(d)

REGULAR CRIMINAL CASES DISPOSED OF PER JUDGE DURING 1987
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1986

DISTRICT	DISTRICT JUDGES			ASSOCIATE JUDGES		
	NUMBER	DISPOSITIONS	PER JUDGE (AVERAGE)	NUMBER	DISPOSITIONS	PER JUDGE (AVERAGE)
1	12	1,694	141	5	4,517	903
2	17	2,866	169	6	2,877	480
3	11	3,112	346	4	2,899	725
4	6	1,218	152	3	1,574	525
5	22	3,328	151	9	4,700	522
6	11	2,081	189	5	4,350	870
7	10	1,395	140	5	3,175	635
8	11	1,153	105	5	2,332	466
1987 Statewide	100	16,847	168	42	26,424	629
1986 Statewide	99	19,387	196	39	26,810	687

TABLE 4

COMPARISON OF TOTAL 1987 CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASELOAD[a]
PER DISTRICT AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATE JUDGE
WITH RANK OF DISTRICT
IN PARENTHESIS

(Adjusted to the nearest whole case of matter.)

DISTRICT	NUMBER OF JUDGES	NUMBER OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL DISPOSITIONS — DISTRICT JUDGES			NUMBER OF JUDGES	NUMBER OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL DISPOSITIONS — DISTRICT ASSOCIATE JUDGES		
		TOTAL	PER JUDGE			TOTAL	PER JUDGE	
1	12	8,180	682	(6)	5	4,572	914	(1)
2	17	10,612	624	(7)	6	2,945	491	(7)
3	11	8,960	815	(2)	4	3,077	769	(3)
4	6	4,490	748	(4)	3	1,574	525	(5)
5	22	16,330	742	(5)	9	4,726	525	(6)
6	11	8,670	788	(3)	5	4,379	876	(2)
7	10	8,181	818	(1)	5	3,299	660	(4)
8	11	5,838	531	(8)	5	2,402	480	(8)
1987 Statewide	100	71,261	713		42	26,974	642	
1986 Statewide	99	—	744		39	—	696	

a. Computed from the sum of such cases disposed of by district and district associate judges, as shown by Tables 2(b), 2(c), 3(b) and 3(c).

TABLE 5

NUMBER OF CIVIL FILINGS (AND DISPOSITIONS)
IN THE DISTRICT COURT DURING 1987
BY TYPE OF CASE WITH TOTALS
COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1986

DISTRICT	DISSOLUTIONS	UNIFORM SUPPORT	DOMESTIC ABUSE	OTHER EQUITY AND LAW	SMALL CLAIMS APPEALS	TOTAL
1	1,639 (1,723)	1,295 (1,411)	21 (20)	2,869 (3,271)	109 (116)	5,933 (6,541)
2	2,569 (2,566)	1,109 (1,320)	29 (20)	3,317 (3,773)	127 (135)	7,151 (7,814)
3	1,568 (1,566)	707 (908)	67 (55)	3,146 (3,409)	82 (88)	5,570 (6,026)
4	1,253 (1,203)	327 (322)	2 —	1,611 (1,698)	48 (49)	3,241 (3,272)
5	3,806 (4,036)	834 (1,105)	10 (9)	6,227 (7,699)	179 (179)	11,056 (13,028)
6	2,101 (2,222)	598 (631)	27 (37)	3,204 (3,610)	84 (118)	6,014 (6,618)
7	2,052 (2,273)	1,246 (1,661)	28 (18)	2,702 (2,889)	65 (69)	6,093 (6,910)
8	1,892 (1,814)	248 (331)	65 (61)	2,343 (2,462)	91 (87)	4,639 (4,755)
1987 Statewide	16,880 (17,403)	6,364 (7,689)	249 (220)	25,419 (28,811)	785 (841)	49,697 (54,964)
1986 Statewide	16,844 (16,721)	7,722 (8,398)	170 (154)	27,530 (28,567)	761 (792)	53,027 (54,632)

Legend: Dissolutions -- original actions and modifications.
Uniform Support -- actions pursuant to the Uniform Support of Dependents Law. (URESA), Chapter 252A, The Code.

TABLE 6

NUMBER OF CRIMINAL FILINGS (AND DISPOSITIONS)
IN THE DISTRICT COURT DURING 1987 BY CASE TYPE
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1986

DISTRICT	OWI (1st/2nd)	OTHER INDICTABLE MISDEMEANORS	OWI (3+)	OTHER FELONIES	SIMPLE MISDEMEANOR APPEALS	TOTAL
1	2,244 (2,210)	2,922 (2,822)	82 (61)	857 (1,062)	44 (56)	6,149 (6,211)
2	2,108 (1,985)	2,857 (2,696)	101 (81)	1,036 (963)	68 (68)	6,170 (5,793)
3	2,169 (2,147)	2,823 (2,548)	47 (31)	1,379 (1,224)	68 (61)	6,486 (6,011)
4	954 (856)	1,295 (1,409)	51 (40)	445 (430)	51 (57)	2,796 (2,792)
5	2,695 (2,558)	4,259 (3,886)	192 (177)	1,333 (1,270)	93 (137)	8,572 (8,028)
6	2,442 (2,419)	3,008 (2,757)	144 (135)	951 (990)	143 (130)	6,688 (6,431)
7	1,759 (1,756)	2,015 (1,765)	68 (57)	822 (970)	15 (22)	4,679 (4,570)
8	1,456 (1,436)	1,346 (1,314)	49 (44)	673 (645)	51 (46)	3,575 (3,485)
1987 Statewide	15,827 (15,367)	20,525 (19,197)	734 (626)	7,496 (7,554)	533 (577)	45,115 (43,321)
1986 Statewide	18,286 (18,369)	18,896 (18,697)	— —	7,692 (8,535)	517 (596)	45,391 (46,197)

Legend: OWI - operating while intoxicated.
Other Indictable Misdemeanors - includes serious and aggravated misdemeanors other than OWI.

TABLE 7

(a)

PROBATE MATTERS

NUMBER OPENED AND TRIALS ON CONTESTS DURING 1987
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1986

DISTRICT	JUDGES	TRUSTEESHIPS OPENED	GUARDIANSHIPS & CONSERVATORSHIPS OPENED	ESTATES OPENED	TRIALS TO JURY	TRIALS TO COURT
1	12	93	444	2,525	—	83
2	17	166	555	3,861	1	87
3	11	163	484	2,630	—	16
4	6	36	257	1,323	1	17
5	22	110	764	3,014	4	63
6	11	142	509	2,562	—	—
7	10	48	285	1,722	—	16
8	11	80	408	2,229	7	55
1987 Statewide	100	838	3,706	19,866	13	337
1986 Statewide	99	788	3,779	19,226	20	261

TABLE 7

(b)

DECEDENTS' ESTATES CLOSED[a]

NUMBER CLOSED DURING 1987 AND AGE AT TIME OF CLOSING
WITH TOTALS COMPARED WITH THOSE OF 1986

DISTRICT	ESTATES CLOSED	PERCENT WITHIN 1 YEAR		PERCENT FROM 1-3 YEARS		AFTER 3 YEARS	
1	2,540	(1,561)	61%	(724)	29%	(255)	10%
2	3,279	(1,815)	55%	(1,154)	35%	(310)	9%
3	2,646	(1,579)	60%	(824)	31%	(243)	9%
4	1,186	(685)	58%	(360)	30%	(141)	12%
5	3,027	(1,535)	51%	(1,175)	39%	(317)	10%
6	1,692	(913)	54%	(612)	36%	(167)	10%
7	1,441	(736)	51%	(415)	29%	(290)	20%
8	2,430	(1,576)	65%	(613)	25%	(241)	10%
1987 Statewide	18,241	(10,400)	57%	(5,877)	32%	(1,964)	11%
1986 Statewide	18,068	—	55%	—	33%	—	12%

a. In addition, there were 628 trusteeships and 3,375 guardianships and conservatorships closed in 1987.

TABLE 8

(a)

NUMBER AND TYPE OF JUVENILE PETITIONS

FILED DURING 1987 WITH TOTALS COMPARED
TO THOSE OF 1986

DISTRICT	DELINQUENCY	CHINA	FINA	IC	TOTAL
1	411	278	1	1	691
2	399	344	1	4	748
3	351	240	2	3	596
4	267	196	—	—	463
5	601	516	9	2	1,128
6	471	337	—	1	809
7	471	305	9	29	814
8	458	356	—	1	815
1987 Statewide	3,429	2,572	22	41	6,064
1986 Statewide	3,590	2,732	15	30	6,367

Legend: CHINA — Child in need of assistance.
FINA -- Family in need of assistance.
IC — Interstate compacts (extradition).

(For definition of these terms, see section 232.2, The Code.)

TABLE 8

(b)

NUMBER OF FORMAL HEARINGS

IN JUVENILE MATTERS DURING 1987
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1986

DISTRICT	ADJUDICATION	DISPOSITION	REVIEW	D/S	OTHER	TOTAL
1	547	555	802	211	713	2,828
2	390	810	568	155	778	2,701
3	494	386	795	179	535	2,389
4	344	188	258	86	342	1,218
5	703	1,361	944	123	452	3,583
6	520	786	1,932	418	1,247	4,903
7	413	896	438	168	230	2,145
8	393	471	847	70	270	2,051
1987 Statewide	3,804	5,453	6,584	1,410	4,567	21,818
1986 Statewide	3,861	5,695	5,806	1,367	3,689	20,418

Legend: Adjudication hearing -- Section 232.2(2), The Code.
Disposition hearing -- Section 232.2(16), The Code.
Review hearing -- Section 212.102(6), The Code.
D/S -- Detention/Shelter hearing -- Section 232.2(14)(46), The Code.
Other -- Includes such proceedings as: hearings on motions for change of venue and placement, motions for evaluation, change of counsel, motions to continue or suppress evidence, and contempt of court and probation violation hearings.

TABLE 9

NUMBER OF PETITIONS FILED AND NUMBER AND TYPE OF FORMAL HEARINGS HELD IN CASES INVOLVING VOLUNTARY AND INVOLUNTARY TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS, 1987

DISTRICT	NUMBER OF PETITIONS FILED		NUMBER AND TYPE OF FORMAL HEARINGS			
			TRIAL DETERMINATION		REVIEW	TOTAL
1 V[a]	77		63		3	66
I[b]	13		28		20	48
		90		91	23	114
2 V	89		63		15	78
I	35		25		5	30
		124		88	20	108
3 V	103		66		5	71
I	15		11		6	17
		118		77	11	88
4 V	31		28		2	30
I	27		19		1	20
		58		47	3	50
5 V	162		149		9	158
I	79		67		-	67
		241		216	9	225
6 V	56		59		60	119
I	45		49		140	189
		101		108	200	308
7 V	77		67		2	69
I	5		9		-	9
		82		76	2	78
8 V	59		52		12	64
I	28		14		3	17
		87		66	15	81
1987 V	654		547		108	655
Statewide I	247		222		175	397
Totals		901		769	283	1,052

a. V — Voluntary or uncontested termination proceeding.
b. I — Involuntary or contested termination proceeding.

TABLE 10

NUMBER AND TYPE OF HOSPITALIZATION HEARINGS DURING 1987
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1986

DISTRICT	INVOLUNTARY MINOR	INVOLUNTARY ADULT	EMERGENCY	SUBSTANCE ABUSE	TOTAL
1	31	316	219	192	758
2	7	381	227	228	843
3	14	261	234	163	672
4	7	80	80	44	211
5	13	364	134	273	784
6	25	336	148	282	791
7	30	246	107	128	511
8	15	272	101	97	485
1987 Statewide	142	2,256	1,250	1,407	5,055
1986 Statewide	141	2,278	1,134	1,147	4,700

TABLE 11

TOTAL ACTIVITY[a] OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES DURING 1987 ON MATTERS OTHER THAN REGULAR CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES, TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS, AND JUVENILE CASES WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1986

DISTRICT	JUDGES	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED OR ASSIGNED	DISPOSED OF	PENDING DECEMBER 31
1	5	1,356	11,621	11,703	1,274
2	6	742	10,386	10,329	799
3	4	2,040	13,566	13,291	2,315
4	3	1,188	5,376	5,290	1,274
5	9	34,751	63,554	57,728	40,577
6	5	6,113	17,979	18,651	5,441
7	5	1,073	6,061	6,363	771
8	5	716	7,798	7,240	1,274
1987 Statewide	42	47,979	136,341	130,595	53,725
1986 Statewide	39	46,377	143,429	141,827	47,979

a. Includes nonindictable (simple) misdemeanors, lost property actions, small claims, initial appearances, preliminary hearings, search warrant applications, and seized property and hospitalization hearings. Pending figures include misdemeanors and small claims only.

NOTE: For complete and detailed information on the various types of cases combined in this table, see **Tables 12(a) through 12(d), 14(d) and 9.**

TABLE 12

(a)

INITIAL APPEARANCE PROCEEDINGS AND PRELIMINARY HEARINGS[a]

1987 ACTIVITY OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1986

DISTRICT	JUDGES	NUMBER OF	
		INITIAL APPEARANCES[a]	PRELIMINARY HEARINGS[b]
1	5	1,485	—
2	6	1,352	32
3	4	2,098	—
4	3	1	—
5	9	7,174	68
6	5	3,228	—
7	5	2,362	12
8	5	1,163	186
1987 Statewide	42	18,863	298
1986 Statewide	39	18,420	245

a. Refers to the initial court appearance of a person charged with a criminal offense above a simple misdemeanor. See rule 2(1), R. Cr. P.

b. Refers to a preliminary hearing held in a criminal case above a simple misdemeanor. See rule 2(4), R. Cr. P.

TABLE 12

(b)

NONINDICTABLE — STATE CASES

1987 ACTIVITY OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1986

DISTRICT	JUDGES	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	DISPOSED OF BY				PENDING DECEMBER 31
				TRIAL TO JURY	TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL		
						GUILTY PLEA	DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	
1	5	986	4,846	6	19	3,716	1,073	1,018
2	6	444	4,073	12	205	2,921	940	439
3	4	1,425	6,325	–	257	3,611	2,180	1,702
4	3	914	3,440	11	1	2,232	1,026	1,084
5	9	4,698	21,812	73	956	15,413	5,207	4,861
6	5	2,431	4,842	6	188	3,646	1,603	1,830
7	5	724	2,635	9	76	2,170	601	503
8	5	474	3,156	1	145	1,741	875	868
1987 Statewide	42	12,096	51,129	118	1,847	35,450	13,505	12,305
1986 Statewide	39	10,584	50,111	63	1,715	31,846	14,975	12,096

TABLE 12

(c)

NONINDICTABLE — ORDINANCE CASES

1987 ACTIVITY OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1986

DISTRICT	JUDGES	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	DISPOSED OF BY				PENDING DECEMBER 31
				TRIAL TO JURY	TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL		
						GUILTY PLEA	DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	
1	5	264	3,629	-	3	3,022	715	153
2	6	280	4,212	2	190	3,386	591	323
3	4	599	4,488	1	215	3,243	1,026	602
4	3	208	555	1	3	383	251	125
5	9	30,050	25,769	61	1,225	16,064	2,756	35,713
6	5	3,479	8,001	8	215	7,353	422	3,482
7	5	349	875	1	47	718	190	268
8	5	241	2,176	4	118	1,646	276	373
1987 Statewide	42	35,470	49,705	78	2,016	35,815	6,227	41,039
1986 Statewide	39	35,428	60,039	32	2,080	40,012	17,873	35,470

TABLE 12

(d)

SMALL CLAIMS

1987 ACTIVITY OF ASSOCIATE JUDGES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1986

DISTRICT	JUDGES	PENDING JANUARY 1	ASSIGNED BY CLERK	DISPOSED OF BY[a]			PENDING DECEMBER 31
				TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL		
					DEFAULT	DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	
1	5	106	1,438	329	917	195	103
2	6	17	575	354	145	57	37
3	4	16	600	83	437	85	11
4	3	66	1,347	623	575	150	65
5	9	3	8,570	2,258	6,306	6	3
6	5	203	1,832	1,118	491	297	129
7	5	—	55	55	—	—	—
8	5	1	1,031	334	631	34	33
1987 Statewide	42	413	15,448	5,154	9,502	824	381
1986 Statewide	39	365	13,557	5,028	7,650	831	413

a. Disrict associate judges also disposed of three county infractions and 59 municipal infractions. An infraction is a civil offense punishable by a civil penalty of not more than $100 for each violation or $200 or less for each repeat offense filed before district associate judges in four counties: Story (1), Woodbury (23), Linn (2), and Johnson (61).

TABLE 13

TOTAL ACTIVITY[a] OF MAGISTRATES DURING 1987
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1986

DISTRICT	MAGISTRATES ACTUAL[b]	(AUTHORIZED)	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED OR ASSIGNED[c]	DISPOSED	PENDING DECEMBER 31
1	23	(23)	4,302	31,801	30,703	5,400
2	32	(38)	2,169	28,177	28,060	2,286
3	26[d]	(30)	1,915	20,667	20,787	1,795
4	16	(19)	1,387	14,191	14,345	1,233
5	16[d]	(27)	1,335	13,458	13,594	1,119
6	14	(17)	2,083	26,482	26,373	2,192
7	13	(13)	2,148	17,451	16,752	2,847
8	18	(24)	2,167	17,365	17,741	1,791
1987 Statewide	158	(191)	17,506[e]	169,592	168,355	18,743
1986 Statewide	158	(191)	14,722	160,064	157,282	17,504

a. This table does not include the six infractions and the 50 OWI guilty pleas handled by magistrates in 1987. See **Tables 3(a) and 14(e).**

b. The 1987 figures indicate the actual number of magistrates serving in each district; figures in parenthesis show the number of magistrate positions authorized. See footnote a, **Table 2(a)** for counties using substitute district associate judges and **Appendix E** for the July 1, 1987, allocation of magistrates. The 1987 activity of district associate judges substituting for magistrates is included in the work load of regular district associate judges as illustrated in **Table 11** rather than the business of magistrates presented in this table.

c. For purposes of this table, all search warrant applications, seized property hearings, lost property actions, preliminary hearings, initial appearances, and hospitalization hearings docketed in 1987 were considered disposed of by the end of the year. Pending figures refer only to small claims and simple misdemeanors (nonindictable state and ordinance cases).

d. During 1987, Ida, Adair and Monona Counties exercised the option provided in Iowa Code section 602.6402, and divided their one magistrate position into two jobs leaving 158 magistrates to fill 155 salaried positions.

e. This figures differs from that of December 31, 1986, due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 14

(a)

INITIAL APPEARANCE PROCEEDINGS AND PRELIMINARY HEARINGS

1987 ACTIVITY OF MAGISTRATES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1986

DISTRICT	NUMBER OF INITIAL APPEARANCES[a]	PRELIMINARY HEARINGS[b]
1	2,347	9
2	4,371	291
3	2,435	63
4	1,363	87
5	1,805	139
6	2,702	14
7	2,143	17
8	2,724	117
1987 Statewide	19,890	737
1986 Statewide	19,092	741

a. Refers to the initial court appearance of a person charged with a criminal offense above a simple misdemeanor. See rule 2(1), R. Cr. P.

b. Refers to a preliminary hearing held in a criminal case above a simple misdemeanor. See rule 2(4), R. Cr. P.

TABLE 14

(b)

NONINDICTABLE — STATE CASES

1987 ACTIVITY OF MAGISTRATES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1986

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	DISPOSED OF BY				PENDING DECEMBER 31
			TRIAL TO JURY	TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL		
					GUILTY PLEA	DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	
1	1,915	12,603	10	785	7,064	4,802	1,857
2	1,611	17,145	10	1,731	11,258	3,916	1,841
3	1,656	12,497	2	798	8,593	3,176	1,584
4	769	7,708	15	768	4,978	1,840	876
5	1,168	8,593	22	974	5,770	1,937	1,058
6	1,700	14,168	46	1,051	10,198	2,751	1,822
7	921	8,486	24	711	5,217	1,852	1,603
8	1,596	10,386	22	717	7,516	2,325	1,402
1987 Statewide	11,336[a]	91,586	151	7,535	60,594	22,599	12,043
1986 Statewide	9,595	82,210	134	6,988	54,407	18,951	11,335

a. This figures differs from that of December 31, 1986, due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 14

(c)

NONINDICTABLE — ORDINANCE CASES

1987 ACTIVITY OF MAGISTRATES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1986

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	DISPOSED OF BY				PENDING DECEMBER 31
			TRIAL TO JURY	TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL		
					GUILTY PLEA	DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	
1	2,364	15,167	8	580	10,559	2,854	3,530
2	336	3,818	16	417	3,090	392	239
3	181	4,233	-	299	3,354	619	142
4	601	4,156	2	247	3,405	770	333
5	149	1,871	1	417	1,244	253	105
6	303	7,928	2	549	6,499	903	278
7	530	4,395	8	418	2,861	1,033	605
8	509	2,729	1	174	2,270	472	321
1987 Statewide	4,973	44,297	38	3,101	33,282	7,296	5,553
1986 Statewide	4,299	43,819	24	3,383	32,956	6,782	4,973

TABLE 14

(d)

SEARCH WARRANT APPLICATIONS AND SEIZED PROPERTY HEARINGS
BY TYPE OF JUDICIAL OFFICER

1987 ACTIVITY OF MAGISTRATES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1986

DISTRICT	SEARCH WARRANT APPLICATIONS				SEIZED PROPERTY HEARINGS			
	DJ	DAJ	M	TOTAL	DJ	DAJ	M	TOTAL
1	63	20	50	133	2	110	15	127
2	1	67	120	188	1	11	11	23
3	-	49	98	147	-	-	10	10
4	-	26	243	269	-	6	8	14
5	41	125	44	210	42	12	16	70
6	1	71	32	104	1	5	9	15
7	13	101	33	147	7	8	-	15
8	5	19	151	175	-	51	29	80
1987 Statewide	124	478	771	1,373	53	203	98	354
1986 Statewide	138	456	583	1,177	150	479	208	837

Legend: DJ — District Judges
DAJ — District Associate Judges
M — Magistrates

There were also 162 lost property actions handled by magistrates and 100 such actions disposed of by district associate judges in 1987.

TABLE 14

(e)

SMALL CLAIMS

1987 ACTIVITY OF MAGISTRATES
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1986

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	ASSIGNED BY CLERK	DISPOSED OF BY[a]			PENDING DECEMBER 31
			TRIAL TO COURT	WITHOUT TRIAL		
				DEFAULT	DISMISSED/ TRANSFERRED	
1	23	1,503	1,107	350	56	13
2	222	2,320	1,548	576	212	206
3	78	1,254	671	438	154	69
4	17	585	285	250	43	24
5	18	853	558	198	79	36
6	80	1,586	688	708	178	92
7	697	2,279	1,385	657	295	639
8	62	1,174	768	314	86	68
1987 Statewide	1,197[b]	11,544	7,010	3,491	1,103	1,147
1986 Statewide	828	12,926	7,820	3,613	1,125	1,196

a. Magistrates also disposed of one county infraction and five municipal infractions. An infraction is a civil offense punishable by a civil penalty of not more than $100 for each violation or $200 or less for each repeat offense. Infractions were filed before magistrates in the following counties: Dubuque (2), Polk (8), Linn (2), and Scott (1).

b. This figures differs from that of December 31, 1986, due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 15

SMALL CLAIMS DOCKET MAINTAINED BY THE CLERK DURING 1987
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1986

DISTRICT	PENDING JANUARY 1	DOCKETED	DISPOSED OF BY		PENDING DECEMBER 31
			CLERK	JUDICIAL OFFICERS[a]	
1	1,188	6,577	3,888	2,954	923
2	2,141	9,788	6,983	2,892	2,054
3	1,212	7,220	5,272	1,868	1,292
4	827	3,934	1,975	1,926	860
5	1,911	17,010	7,355	9,405	2,161
6	1,318	6,715	3,484	3,480	1,069
7	671	6,511	3,551	2,392	1,241
8	1,218	5,639	3,677	2,167	1,013
1987 Statewide	10,486[b]	63,394	36,183	27,084	10,613
1986 Statewide	11,403	68,465	43,316	26,067	10,485

a. Includes small claims dispositions by magistrates and judges.
b. This figure differs from that of December 31, 1986, due to inventory corrections.

TABLE 16

NUMBER OF SCHEDULED VIOLATIONS[a]

Handled Exclusively by the District Court Clerks (per county)

County	NUMBER 1987	NUMBER 1986	County	NUMBER 1987	NUMBER 1986
Adair	1,763	1,831	Jefferson	2,266	2,165
Adams	1,085	970	Johnson	16,428	15,567
Allamakee	1,209	689	Jones	1,685	1,667
Appanoose	2,857	1,364	Keokuk	497	502
Audubon	759	668	Kossuth	1,896	1,781
Benton	3,416	3,195	Lee	3,373	3,721
Black Hawk	15,821	13,907	Linn	16,431	19,077
Boone	3,577	3,066	Louisa	1,836	1,635
Bremer	2,829	2,881	Lucas	1,250	849
Buchanan	2,217	1,904	Lyon	1,059	891
Buena Vista	4,064	3,717	Madison	1,065	1,073
Butler	2,359	2,251	Mahaska	4,336	3,659
Calhoun	848	845	Marion	5,945	5,732
Carroll	4,925	4,279	Marshall	4,224	4,164
Cass	3,218	4,387	Mills	2,800	2,990[a]
Cedar	9,378	13,725	Mitchell	967	917
Cerro Gordo	11,634	11,797	Monona	2,008	1,896
Cherokee	2,740	2,471	Monroe	1,889	1,445
Chickasaw	2,548	1,945	Montgomery	1,357	1,593
Clarke	5,861	6,665	Muscatine	5,213	6,721
Clay	3,378	3,151	O'Brien	2,258	1,730
Clayton	2,873	2,736	Osceola	850	885
Clinton	5,869	6,131	Page	851	904
Crawford	3,697	3,193	Palo Alto	1,389	1,163
Dallas	4,088	4,386	Plymouth	4,505	5,387
Davis	1,105	1,193	Pocahontas	868	697
Decatur	1,799	2,251	Polk	95,071	96,174
Delaware	3,110	3,205	Pottawattamie	13,480	14,332
Des Moines	4,944	4,834	Poweshiek	3,546	3,142
Dickinson	3,599	2,941	Ringgold	188	239
Dubuque	7,442	6,231	Sac	3,356	2,614
Emmet	704	692	Scott	25,353	24,233
Fayette	3,743	3,126	Shelby	1,620	1,196
Floyd	1,976	1,767	Sioux	2,631	2,814
Franklin	3,800	4,264	Story	9,244	7,299
Fremont	1,994	1,676	Tama	4,219	3,239
Greene	2,049	1,578	Taylor	478	440
Grundy	2,518	2,907	Union	2,145	1,936
Guthrie	1,133	907	Van Buren	884	712
Hamilton	3,370	4,670	Wapello	7,063	4,912
Hancock	1,356	1,115	Warren	4,147	4,364
Hardin	2,125	1,926	Washington	2,125	2,044
Harrison	5,828	5,274	Wayne	837	804
Henry	2,873	2,910	Webster	3,023	2,610
Howard	866	846	Winnebago	838	670
Humboldt	1,410	1,136	Winneshiek	1,913	1,659
Ida	1,179	1,021	Woodbury	17,470	13,851
Iowa	2,714	3,310	Worth	4,267	4,488
Jackson	1,884	2,123	Wright	1,203	684
Jasper	5,503	5,134			
			TOTALS	464,384	452,458[a]

a. Scheduled violations are defined in section 805.8, The Code.
b. This figure has been corrected due to inventory corrections.

APPENDIX A

NUMBER AND AGE OF CIVIL CASES[a] PENDING DECEMBER 31, 1987 WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1986

DISTRICT	TOTAL NUMBER PENDING	NUMBER OF CASES PENDING (IN PERCENT)		
		90 DAYS OR LESS	3–18 MONTHS	OVER 18 MONTHS
1	5,448	1,419 (26%)	2,462 (45%)	1,567 (29%)
2	7,306	1,474 (20%)	3,704 (51%)	2,128 (29%)
3	5,937	1,149 (19%)	2,957 (50%)	1,831 (31%)
4	2,695	615 (23%)	1,398 (52%)	682 (25%)
5	9,264	2,168 (23%)	5,829 (63%)	1,267 (14%)
6	5,111	1,408 (20%)	3,102 (61%)	961 (19%)
7	4,259	996 (23%)	2,228 (52%)	1,035 (24%)
8	3,258	814 (25%)	1,949 (60%)	495 (15%)
1987 Statewide	43,278	9,683 (22%)	23,629 (55%)	9,966 (23%)
1986 Statewide	48,545	10,488 (22%)	26,867 (55%)	11,190 (23%)

a. Includes civil cases above a small claim and small claims on appeal.

APPENDIX B

NUMBER AND AGE OF CRIMINAL CASES[a]
PENDING DECEMBER 31, 1987
WITH TOTALS COMPARED TO THOSE OF 1986

DISTRICT	TOTAL NUMBER PENDING	NUMBER OF CASES PENDING (IN PERCENT)		
		90 DAYS OR LESS	3-18 MONTHS	OVER 18 MONTHS
1	1,996	888 (44%)	772 (39%)	336 (17%)
2	2,530	1,094 (43%)	919 (36%)	517 (21%)
3	3,410	1,101 (32%)	1,311 (39%)	998 (29%)
4	1,097	658 (60%)	305 (28%)	134 (12%)
5	3,075	1,757 (57%)	925 (30%)	393 (13%)
6	3,313	1,514 (46%)	1,083 (33%)	716 (21%)
7	2,667	1,446 (54%)	879 (33%)	342 (13%)
8	1,385	645 (46%)	482 (35%)	258 (19%)
1987 Statewide	19,473	9,103 (47%)	6,676 (34%)	3,694 (19%)
1986 Statewide	17,683	8,061 (45%)	6,140 (35%)	3,482 (20%)

a. Includes criminal cases above a small misdemeanor and simple misdemeanors on appeal.

APPENDIX C

POPULATION PER DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

DISTRICT	JUDGES	DISTRICT POPULATION[a]	POPULATION PER JUDGE
1	12	379,600	31,633
2	17	482,300	28,370
3	11	340,700	30,973
4	6	194,800	32,467
5	22	546,300	24,832
6	11	330,600	30,055
7	10	292,400	29,240
8	11	284,100	25,827
Statewide	100	2,850,800	28,508

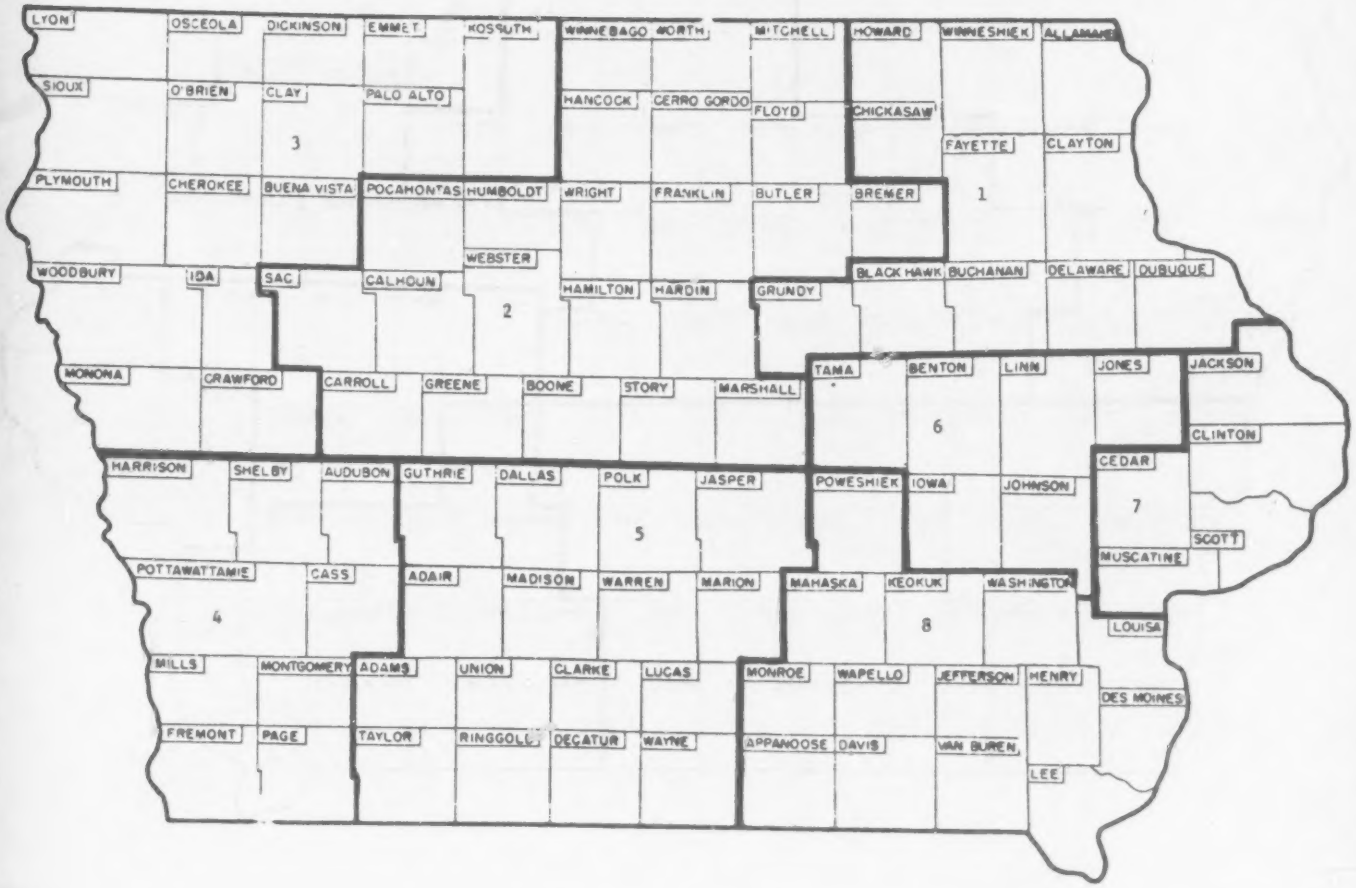
a. Official 1986 population statistics -- U.S. Bureau of the Census and the Iowa Department of Economic Development.

APPENDIX D

IOWA'S EIGHT JUDICIAL DISTRICTS — POPULATION[a]

First District	379,600	Fifth District	546,300
Second District	482,300	Sixth District	330,600
Third District	340,700	Seventh District	292,400
Fourth District	194,800	Eighth District	284,100

STATE TOTAL — 2,850,800

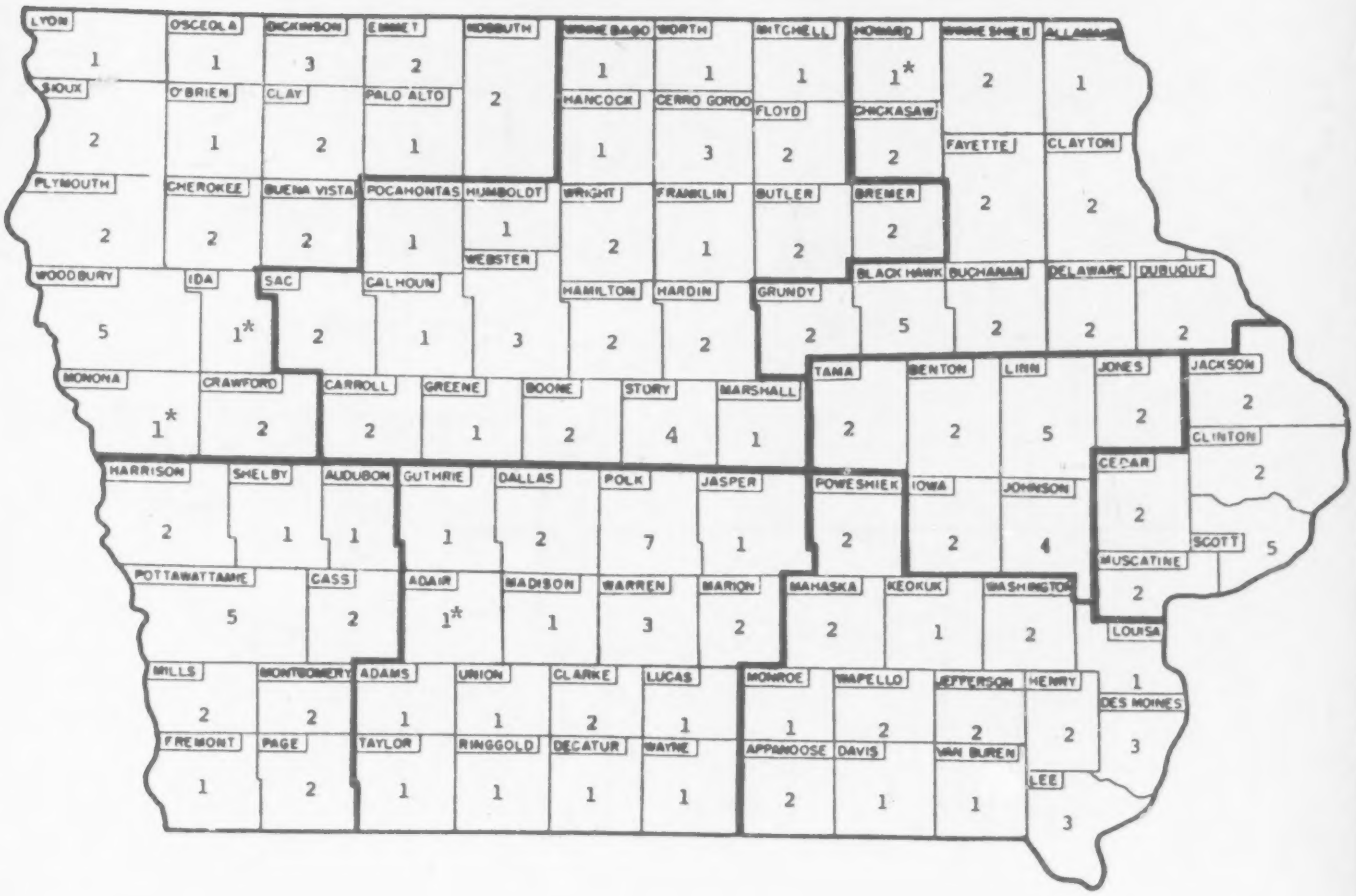


a. Official 1986 population figures -- U.S. Bureau of the Census and the Iowa Department of Economic Development.

APPENDIX E

ALLOCATION OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATES JULY 1, 1987 THROUGH JUNE 30, 1989

37 - one Magistrate counties
48 - two Magistrate counties
6 - three Magistrate counties
2 - four Magistrate counties
5 - five Magistrate counties
1 - seven Magistrate county



*Counties taking the option of appointing one additional magistrate as provided in section 602.58.

APPENDIX F

FILINGS IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT
1956–1987

YEAR	#DISTRICT JUDGES	CIVIL[a]	CRIMINAL[b]	TOTAL	(PER JUDGE)	JUVENILE[c]	PROBATE[d] OPENED
1987	100	49,697	45,115	94,812	(948)	6,064	24,410
1986	99	53,027	45,391	98,418	(994)	6,367	23,793
1985	99	54,005	41,116	95,121	(961)	6,060	24,790
1984	99	49,294	40,379	89,673	(906)	6,099	24,190
1983	99	51,476	39,952	91,428	(924)	5,532	24,233
1982	95	55,763	39,008	94,771	(998)	5,363	24,329
1981	95	58,225	36,932	95,157	(1,002)	5,570	24,192
1980	92	58,442	35,669	94,111	(1,028)	5,501	23,452
1979	92	51,031	31,026	82,057	(892)	5,227	23,479
1978	92	46,498	27,942	74,440	(809)	6,179	24,218
1977	92	43,324	28,795	72,119	(784)	6,000	23,202
1976	89	40,103	26,009	66,112	(742)	5,744	22,896
1975	84	37,963	23,600	61,563	(733)	5,685	22,640
1974	83	36,216	20,653	56,869	(685)	5,446	22,646
1973	83	38,057	16,148	54,205	(653)	3,730	22,803
1972	76	40,483	10,699	51,182	(673)	2,567	21,953
1971	76	40,315	11,300	51,615	(679)	3,249	21,317
1970	76	37,965	10,140	48,105	(633)	3,224	20,470
1969	76	35,574	9,505	45,079	(593)	2,876	20,158
1968	75	33,617	8,367	41,984	(560)	2,626	19,520
1967	76	31,646	7,496	39,142	(515)	2,367	19,310
1966	75	30,310	7,159	37,469	(500)	2,146	19,515
1965	75	29,207	7,432	36,639	(489)	2,163	19,463
1964	75	28,405	7,004	35,409	(472)	2,341	19,034
1963	75	28,138	6,641	34,779	(464)	2,096	18,532
1962	75	28,528	7,113	35,641	(475)	2,035	17,831
1961	75	28,288	7,209	35,497	(473)	1,880	17,346
1960	73	26,767	7,260	34,027	(466)	2,012	17,248
1959	73	25,136	7,086	32,222	(441)	2,005	17,117
1958	72	23,661	6,724	30,385	(422)	1,937	16,694
1957	72	23,579	6,486	30,065	(418)	1,921	16,945
1956	70	22,922	6,178	29,100	(416)	1,607	16,137

a. Includes civil cases over $2,000 and small claims on appeal.
b. Includes indictable criminal cases (serious and aggravated misdemeanors and felonies) and simple misdemeanor appeals.
c. Includes petitions filed in ordinary juvenile matters, e.g., delinquency, child and family in need of assistance and interstate compacts (extradition) matters; does not encompass cases involving termination of parental rights. **[Table 8(a)]**
d. Includes the number of estates, trusteeships, guardianships and conservatorships opened. **[Table 7(a)]**

APPENDIX G

OTHER FILINGS IN THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT
1974–1987

YEAR	SIMPLE MISDEMEANORS	SCHEDULED VIOLATIONS	SMALL CLAIMS
1987	229,652	464,384	63,394
1986	236,179	452,458[b]	68,465
1985	229,425	426,302	73,752
1984	232,070	426,023	71,666
1983	221,841	418,124	67,298
1982	231,998	425,272	67,967
1981	267,436	470,553	75,259
1980	292,037	490,158	82,208
1979	291,404	462,224	78,141
1978	319,481	476,955	72,054
1977	410,862	310,710	65,434
1976	410,696	285,086	62,416
1975	375,707	223,622	63,582
1974[a]	286,504	198,147	68,021

a. This was the first full year under the new unified court system which became effective July 1, 1973.
b. Figure corrected due to inventory corrections.

APPENDIX B

CIVIL/CRIMINAL DISPOSITIONS BY DISTRICT COURT JUDGES[a]
1956-1987

YEAR	# DISTRICT JUDGES	CIVIL[b]	CRIMINAL[c]	TOTAL	PER JUDGE
1987	100	54,414	16,847	71,261	713
1986	99	54,284	19,387	73,671	744
1985	99	51,001	17,882	68,883	696
1984	99	49,324	20,382	69,706	704
1983	99	52,706	19,815	72,521	733
1982	95	54,484	19,027	73,511	774
1981	95	54,511	17,834	72,345	762
1980	92	52,799	17,448	70,247	764
1979	92	47,754	15,098	62,852	683
1978	92	41,898	14,561	56,459	614
1977	92	38,682	17,200	55,882	607
1976	89	37,319	17,750	55,069	619
1975	84	35,737	14,874	50,611	603
1974	83	35,007	14,268	49,275	594
1973	83	38,381	12,384	50,765	612
1972	76	40,553	11,147	51,700	680
1971	76	38,455	10,659	49,114	646
1970	76	35,636	9,304	44,940	591
1969	76	32,642	8,676	41,318	544
1968	75	29,541	8,035	37,576	501
1967	76	29,343	7,267	36,610	482
1966	75	30,140	6,916	37,056	494
1965	75	30,280	6,654	36,934	492
1964	75	28,258	6,757	35,015	467
1963	75	29,342	6,551	35,893	479
1962	75	28,941	7,165	36,106	481
1961	75	30,616	7,556	38,172	509
1960	73	24,094	7,196	31,290	429
1959	73	23,988	6,949	30,937	424
1958	72	23,304	6,533	29,837	414
1957	72	23,302	6,932	30,234	420
1956	70	21,741	5,836	27,577	394

a. Does not include civil and criminal cases disposed of by judges of limited jurisdiction and magistrates.
b. Includes civil cases over $2,000 and small claims cases appealed to the district court. **[Table 2(a)]**
c. Includes indictable criminal cases (serious and aggravated misdemeanors and felonies) and simple misdemeanor appeals. **[Table 3(a)]**